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THE TIMES

No 63,007

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30p

Thatcher shrinks from full reforms

Job shake-up for 70,000 Civil Servants

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday announced that 70,000 Civil Service jobs are to be hived off into new agencies designed to strengthen efficiency.

But it later emerged that plans are much more tentative than had been predicted and that intense lobbying by the Treasury has persuaded Mrs Thatcher against the full-blooded scheme for devolving power proposed to her last summer by her efficiency adviser, the ICI executive, Sir Robin Ibbs.

Of the 70,000 jobs, more than half are from the Employment Service which already runs its Jobcentres on a devolved basis.

At a Cabinet Office briefing after Mrs Thatcher told Parliament of the reform, it became clear that Treasury officials, who have kept the Chancellor of the Exchequer with them throughout, have won a large victory after eight months of infighting.

A Treasury official, Mr Peter Kemp, is to take charge of the reform. He said the programme would "take a very long time to come about".

The Head of the Civil Service, Sir Robin Butler, denied that there had been "a row" over how much hiving off there should be. But he admitted, in a coded way, that arguments had been fierce. "There has been discussion of what is a difficult matter. There are real difficulties in reconciling local and central control."

Miss Kate Jenkins, the official who wrote the original report on behalf of Sir Robin, conceded that what was published yesterday did not amount to all the original recommendations.

Despite the lapse of time since the report was first received, no firm decisions appear yet to have been taken on where the new agencies will be. Downing Street said that 12 blocks of work, including the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre and the Meteorological Office, were "candidates" for the new style of organization, in which a chief executive would be directly answerable for providing an efficient service. But neither the form nor the timetable for their transformation into free-standing entities has yet been decided, the statement said.

The scale of the Treasury's victory was evident when it was disclosed that its officials would retain tight control of the agencies and how much their chief executives and staff were paid.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Civil Service, was at pains to emphasize the long-term and gradual nature of the changes and to play down the suggestion that they constituted a revolution in civil service working practices. In a presentation to trade unions, Sir Robin Butler was said by a spokesman for the Transport and General Workers' Union to have been "disarmingly reassuring".

The staff of the new bodies, which may take over Her Majesty's Stationery Office, the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, the Royal Parks and nine other blocks of civil service work, will not cease to be civil servants nor escape the Official Secrets Act forbidding them to speak without authorization.

Ther powers and perquisites of permanent secretaries in charge of departments are not to be diminished by the change, Sir Robin Butler said, indicating that the agencies would be tightly controlled and answerable to ministers only through the existing civil service hierarchy.

Many, if not most, of the new chief executives would be civil servants, with their appointments vetted by the Civil Service Commission, a procedure likely to exclude many likely private sector directors, even if they were attracted by the highly constrained contracts they would be asked to work under.

During brief exchanges in the House of Commons, Mr Michael Heseltine, an enthusiast for new management methods in Whitehall, called for the progressive introduction of contracts throughout Whitehall, but Mrs Thatcher replied that recruitment would have to continue under existing rules.

Mr Kemp, who will be promoted to permanent secretary grade as project manager for the reform, said that the agencies would continue under ministerial direction. Ministers would continue, he said, "to move the goalposts", in response to political changes, a prospect unlikely to attract people used to the freedom of private enterprise.

A recommendation in Sir Robin Ibbs's original report that would have reduced the scope for ministerial involvement in the work of these new agencies was rejected.

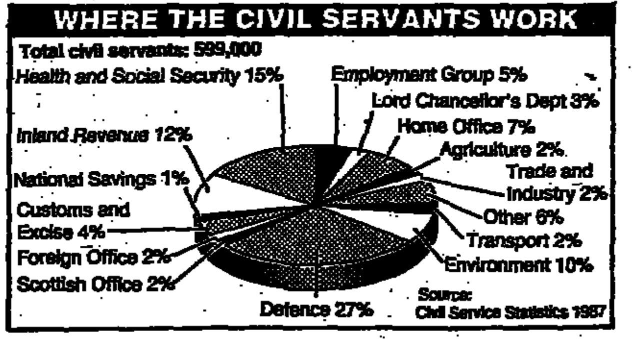
But Mr Luce did say that these are only the first steps of a long-term change in the way Whitehall is organized. Much hinges on the "frameworks" to be negotiated in each department, within which the new agencies will operate, nor would it stop ministers thinking about where privatization of Whitehall functions might be appropriate.

Mr Luce was asked whether the chief executive of the new agency for the Meteorological Office might be sacked if he failed to predict a hurricane.

Continued on page 22, col 2

WHERE THE CIVIL SERVANTS WORK

Total civil servants: 599,000



Source: Civil Service Statistics 1987

Industry links for defence projects

**By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent**

Commercial spin-offs from sensitive Ministry of Defence projects could rapidly increase with the proposal to convert the six non-nuclear research establishments into an independent agency, Whitehall sources predicted yesterday.

Sir Robin Ibbs's agency plan was announced by the Prime Minister yesterday. The sources said that under the plan for the six MoD research centres — which include the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment at Fort Halstead in Kent — there would be more scope for commercial exploitation.

There has been considerable criticism in the past of the huge sums spent on research by the Ministry of Defence, compared to civilian research and development budgets.

At present, a small team of independent outside consultants, known as "ferrets" go round the non-nuclear research establishments trying to find projects that may have commercial uses.

But yesterday the Whitehall sources said that if the research centres were allowed to be more independent and more "customer-conscious", a closer relationship with industry could be developed.

The Whitehall sources said that the chief executive put in charge of the new agency would be better able to offer the unique services of the MoD research establishments to industry, such as Farnborough's internationally-famous wind tunnel.

Under the proposed scheme, money made through private industry deals could be ploughed back into the research establishments instead of being put into "the Ministry of Defence pocket". This could also produce higher wages for the specialist staff involved, irrespective of Civil Service pay awards.

The six research establishments now have a budget of £400 million a year and employ 15,000 people. MoD sources envisaged that under an agency set-up, the staffing levels could even increase.

Both the Meteorological Office, which is also being considered as a future agency, and the research establishments are likely to remain "within the boundaries of the MoD" because of the sensitive work in which they are involved. "But they would still be distinct organizations, far less affected by Whitehall bureaucracy," said the sources.

The sources said that other departments in the MoD could become separate agencies at some future date. But no decision would be taken until the present proposals, involving the Met Office and the six non-nuclear research establishments, had been studied.

Parliament 4
Licensing centres..........22

WIN £60,000

Portfolio

—PLUS NEW—

Accumulator

- With no winner yesterday, the Portfolio Accumulator fund has risen to £60,000 in only its third week. And of course there is the £4,000 daily prize to be won as well
Game, page 27

IN PART ②

50,000 fall in jobless

Unemployment fell by more than 50,000 last month, maintaining its sharp decline. But there were worrying official figures yesterday on average earnings and bank lending.

The raw unemployment total rose by 26,344 to 2.722 million last month, but the adjusted total fell by 50,900 to 2.563 million.

The increase in average earnings growth to 8.5 per cent at the end of last year brought a warning from Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, that excessive pay awards would hit prospects for a further fall in unemployment.

Pay worry, page 23
Comment, page 25

£505m loss

Midland Bank has reported a loss of £505 million, the biggest ever reported by a British bank, after making a £1 billion provision for Third World debts..............**Page 23**

Army threat

Bert Millichip, the chairman of the FA, said members of the British Army based in West Germany were a potential threat to the safety of the European football championships there in June.....**Page 36**

Rugby post

Keith Rowlands, the former Wales and British Lions forward, was named yesterday as the first paid secretary of the International Rugby Football Board.........................**Page 36**

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★★★★★★

Royal fillip for young heart patients

The Duchess of York talking to heart recipient Andrew Wilson, aged 9, from Merseyside, at Harefield Hospital, London, yesterday as another transplant patient Samantha Dawkins, aged 15, from Woolwich, looks on (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Troops and helicopters cut in Reagan budget

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan yesterday presented a conciliatory election-year budget that restrains military spending while proposing increased funding for education, science and the battle against Aids.

In outlining a budget that totals $1,094 billion (£624 billion), he admitted that this did not fully reflect his priorities nor those of any particular member of Congress.

But he said that there had to be give and take on all sides. "The goal of deficit reduction through spending reduction must be paramount."

Mr Reagan added: "In presenting this budget, I am keeping my end of the bargain. I call upon Congress to uphold its end." Unlike earlier budgets, the proposals are based on an agreement already reached with Congress.

The 1989 budget calls for a reduction in the deficit from $150.2 billion last year and the $146.7 billion estimated for 1988 to $129.5 billion in the fiscal year from October 1.

Defence spending will be held at $299.5 billion — a target less than Mr Reagan originally wanted, but in line with the deficit reduction package agreed with Congress in the wake of last October's Wall Street crash.

The main cuts affect all services. Troop strength in the Army is to be reduced by 8,600 to just over 770,000, the lowest in 10 years. Half of the planned LHX light helicopter programme will be cut.

In the Navy, the Marine strength will be cut by 2,900 to about 196,000. Sixteen frigates will be retired earlier than planned. There will be a delay in upgrading the H-6 bomber programme, and at least one stragegic submarine will be decommissioned early.

The Air Force is planned to cut personnel by about 18,000 to 597,750. Mr Frank Carlucci, the US Defence Secretary, has recommended the cancellation of the anti-satellite weapon programme and the single-warhead mobile Midgetman strategic nuclear missile.

Mr Reagan at a budget meeting yesterday.

The Administration has also been forced to cut back its Star Wars spending, with only $5 billion requested for the Strategic Defence Initiative, compared with the $5.7 billion sought last year.

The overall budget proposals include $14 billion in new taxes, agreed with Congress and already in law.

President Reagan said that the economy had shown "few signs of serious damage" from the crash, and continued to exhibit considerable strength. He said that he was proposing funds to strengthen US technology and make America more competitive.

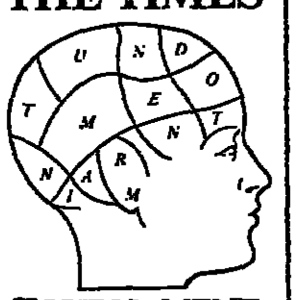
Though many domestic programmes have been cut back, the President has allocated more money for issues of great political concern — chiefly education, Aids research, and getting the space shuttle launched. Manned space programmes receive $11.5 billion.

More money is also proposed to fight terrorism and business crime and build more prisons. There is a 13 per cent increase in finds for the prevention and punishment of drug trading, and a 44 per cent increase to modernize the dangerously overstretched air traffic control system.

Mr Reagan proposed $363 million to begin construction of the superconducting supercollider, which the budget document calls "the largest pure science project ever undertaken". Among the big cuts is the cancelling of one navy aircraft programme, the accelerated retirement of a number of ships, the replacement of housing subsidies with a voucher system, and the selling off of the profitable north-east corridor of Amtrak, the government-owned passenger rail system.

Leading article, page 15

THE TIMES



TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

- **Starting next week, *The Times* Tournament of the Mind offers a £5,000 prize for the outright individual winner and an IBM personal computer for the winner of the schools' section.**
- **The questions, set by Mensa, will appear for 20 days, after which the top scorers will be invited to take part in a final series.**
- **For some tough training, break the following code and read the message. Its vowels have been replaced by stars:**

WQ*J B*Q* *T
W*G*J *X*T
VQMG*J

(If you need the answer, turn to page 20, col 1)

Huge vote to call off strike at Ford

By Tim Jones

Ford workers yesterday rejected the advice of their militant shop stewards and voted overwhelmingly to end the strike which has crippled production at 21 plants in Britain and cost the company an estimated £441 million in lost production.

With only one result from a small plant outstanding, the 32,500 hourly-paid workers voted by about 16,000 to 6,759 to accept a two-year agreement which will guarantee a minimum wage rise of 14 per cent — a total for an average employee of £26.7p by November this year.

As employees prepared to return to work on Monday, it appeared that only the workers on the assembly line at Dagenham rejected the offer, by 1,413 to 1,078.

Announcing the result last night, Mr Jimmy Airlie of the engineering union, speaking for all unions involved in the ballot said: "The decision vindicates the stand of the Ford workers and their recognition that they forced major concessions from the company".

Company officials were surprised that, with so much at stake, almost 10,000 men involved in the agreement did not bother to turn out and vote.

The ballot took place after the company had backed down from its attempts to introduce a three-year pay deal worth 7 per cent for the first year and 2.5 per cent above the rate of inflation for the following two years.

More crucially, the company decided that new working practices designed to make it more competitive in the face of strong, streamlined foreign competition will be negotiated and not imposed.

Continued on page 22, col 5

Making royal palaces pay

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The historic royal palaces and London's royal parks are leading contenders for agency management under the new civil service structure unveiled yesterday by the Prime Minister. This may mean sharply increased charges for visitors.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced within hours of Mrs Thatcher'sstatement that he was already considering their future, and hoped to have the palaces at least under agency management by April next year.

Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, St James' Palace, Clarence House and other palaces lived in by royalty will not be affected. Those that will be are Hampton Court Palace and its gardens and park, the Tower of London, the state apartments and court dress collection at Kensington Palace, the Banqueting House and Kew Palace.

These are all owned by the Crown and managed by the Department of the Environment. At present their £15 million running costs exceed income from visitors by £5 million. However, the new independent agency run by its own chief executive that will take over their management will be expected to be "as entrepreneurial as possible", according to a department spokesman. Visitors will be charged "a marketable price".

Another agency will run all the royal parks — Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James' Park, Green Park,

Continued on page 22, col 5

Noel Coward has latest West End hit — in oils

**By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Sales Correspondent**

Sir Noël Coward, who in life was never knowingly undersold, took his place among the pantheon of successful artists yesterday when his collection of amateur paintings sold for far beyond their estimate at Christie's, London.

As Coward's two great friends, the actress Joyce Carey and Graham Payn, watched soberly from the front row — the latter clutching a dapper cane between his knees — a painting of the White Cliffs of Dover sold for £12,000 against an estimate of up to £8,000, and a large Jamaican beach scene fetched £46,000 (estimate £18,000–£36,000). A brightly coloured harbour scene at Portofino sold for £14,000 (estimate £5,000–10,000).

A family group, of mother, father and son, were actively bidding from the front row, as was another playwright, Jeffrey Archer, whose ceiling appeared to be about £25,000. By halfway through the sale Christie's had passed the £500,000 mark — £200,000 over their estimate for the whole sale — but Mr Archer had failed to secure one of his favourites — all of which were bright beach scenes.

Variously dubbed the "Playboy of the West End world" and "as old as the century", when he died 15 years ago, Noël Coward had enjoyed associations with most forms of entertainment. He had 50 plays, 25 films and hundreds of songs, as well as acting to his name. But no one thought of him as a visual artist.

Then, in October last year, Graham Payn, life-long friend and chief executor of Coward's estate, emerged with a complete collection of paintings by Coward, and the intention of selling them on behalf of theatrical charities.

It turned out Coward had been painting consistently as a hobby during the 40s, 50s and 60s. He had even been encouraged at one stage by Winston Churchill, the greatest Sunday painter of them all, to cast watercolour behind, and work in oils.

Despite the high prices it remains questionable that art history has found a new master. In terms of style, they are far from what might be expected from the king of social etiquette and chic. Friends have described them as "perfectly lovely", "enchanting": in fact, they hail from a category of painting often dismissed as naive, with their bright, crudely applied colours; and their incapacity to challenge the grey matter.

Even during his life-time, Coward had been ready for criticism: "Compared to some of the pretentious muck that is shown month after month in the London galleries, my amateur efforts appear brilliant," he wrote. "There will inevitably be jeers and patronising sneers from the critics, but hits would happen anyway whether the pictures were good, bad or indifferent."

Christie's experts had been cautious when compiling the catalogue, due to the fact that the paintings had no precedent. In the event, their fears were unfounded. Whether their value will increase is another matter.

Sale room, page 3

If you're looking for the very finest cutlery

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Abbeystead blast blamed on design

The designers of the Abbeystead water pumping station in Lancashire were to blame for an explosion which killed 16 people, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday. North West Water Authority and the builders were cleared of *responsibility* for the disaster in May 1984.

Binnie and Partners, the architects of the £27.5 million scheme, are to ask the House of Lords to overturn the decision. Survivors of the explosion and relatives of the dead are expected to make claims for damages amounting to more than £3 million. Interim payments of £3,500 were ordered by Mr Justice Rose last March.

Lords Justices Fox, Bingham and Russell yesterday agreed that Edmund Nuttall, the builders, who had been found 15 per cent to blame, and the North West Water Authority, the occupier, found 30 per cent to blame, should be cleared. Binnie were ordered to pay all the legal costs, estimated at more than £100,000. They were refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords but will be going direct to ask the Lords to hear the case.

Warning on jobs

British Nuclear Fuel told its 7,500 workers at the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant, in Cumbria, yesterday to become more efficient or expect job losses.

In a personal letter to each employee, Mr Alan Johnson, director of Spent Fuel Management Services, said the cost of reprocessing fuel rods from Magnox power stations had increased fivefold in 10 years. The increasing costs had opened the way for the French nuclear industry to compete for the reprocessing of Magnox fuels. Productivity changes were needed to reduce costs.

Bombers' appeal

The six men convicted of the Birmingham public house bombings are to go direct to the House of Lords to seek leave for a final appeal.

Yesterday Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, with Sir Stephen Brown and Lord Justice O'Conner, who rejected appeals against conviction by the six, refused them leave to take their claims to the Lords.

The men can try to seek leave directly from the appelate committee of the House of Lords, after the judges agreed to certify that the case raised a point of law of public importance.

Gang admits affray

Lady Diana Waterlow was punched in the face by a gang of teenagers as she went to the aid of her schoolboy son. Lady Diana, from Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hampshire, "feared for the safety not only of herself but her son and others", magistrates at Marlborough, Wiltshire, were told yesterday.

James Waterlow, aged 17, was pushed and taunted as he left the tennis courts at Marlborough College during a tournament. Mr Desmond Bloom-Davies, for the prosecution, said. Sir Gerard Waterlow was also punched and kicked with another boy during the attack. Jean Wells, aged 17, from Coldharbour Lane, Marlborough, admitted assault and affray, together with two 16-year-old boys. Another girl, aged 15 admitted affray. All were bailed for reports.

Girl killer is hunted

Police and gypsies were last night hunting the killer of a girl aged five whose partly clothed body was found in a field near her mobile home.

Margaret Lowther had been sexually assaulted and then asphyxiated. She was found on Wednesday evening by a search party from the Mellishaw caravan site, Morecambe, Lancashire.

Det Supt Bill Hacking, whose officers are questioning every adult on the site, warned parents to keep their children indoors until the killer was caught.

Jail for ferry man

A man injured trying to save passengers in the Zeebrugge ferry disaster last March in which he lost two relatives was jailed yesterday after being found in possession of drugs he intended to sell. Colin Baines, aged 42, of Hornsey Park Road, Hornsey, north London, was sentenced to two-and-a-half years' imprisonment at Snaresbrook Crown Court, north-east London, after admitting possessing cannabis resin with intent to supply, possessing cocaine, and possessing 65.7 grams of cannabis resin last June.

Chelsea tickets rush

A record of more than 5,000 gardeners have joined the Royal Horticultural Society in the past two months since restrictions were announced on the number of visitors to the Chelsea Flower Show.

The society is urging the public to apply now for tickets for May 26 and 27. It will not be possible to buy tickets at the gate as in previous years.

£10m marked for 'biggest' industry science lab

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The Government is giving £10 million over six years toward a new type of laboratory at Liverpool University to specialize in academic and industrial contract research in surface science.

The sum is is the largest allocated through the Science and Engineering Research Council for one of a series of laboratories to be known as Interdisciplinary Research Centres, or IRCs.

The first grant of £4.5 million was made last December, to Cambridge University, for establishing an IRC to look for breakthroughs in the newly discovered field of superconducting ceramic materials.

The Liverpool project is believed to be the largest university research centre in the world to be dedicated to a science and technology that is increasing in strategic importance to the electronics, aerospace, chemicals, engineering and scientific equipment industries. The centre should be in operation by June.

Dr Neville Richardson, director of the surface science project, said yesterday that he hoped the new centre would stem the drain of young research scientists, particularly those about 24 to 28 years old, to the United States and the Continent.

The university also plans for at least 20 per cent of the research, worth £2 million, to be supported by industrial contracts.

The staff of physicists, chemists, engineers and materials technologists will comprise seven senior scientists, 16 young research scientists and 17 technical support staff and 27 research students.

The centre will be Britain's focal point for research to look in microscopic detail at what is happening on the surface of materials in making electronic devices, and during chemical reactions in plastics or paint-making plants. It will also examine the causes of corrosion and fatigue in metals.

The centre will have a regular group of scientists on secondment from other university and industrial laboratories.

Another £5 million will be allocated for two other IRCs by the Science and Engineering Research Council.

One in engineering design involves a consortium of universities consisting of Glasgow, Strathclyde, and Heriot-Watt, and Napier and Paisley Colleges.

The other, in molecular science, at Oxford, will concentrate on the study of proteins and their interactions with other molecules to control biological functions, ranging from blood clotting to the response of the body to viral infections.

● British computer scientists have built the world's first microchips able to solve problems in a way that mimics the human mind (Robert Matthews writes).

The breakthrough, made after seven years' research by a small team at Linn Smart Computing in Glasgow, promises to lead to small computers capable of tasks such as retrieving information from vast computerized archives in a fraction of the time needed even by room-sized computers today.

British universities are to receive some of the first batch of the first pre-production versions of the microchips, called Rekursiv processors, to investigate their potential.

Mr Marcus Tiefenbrun, a director of the company, said that the new chips would be especially suited to solving the sort of "conceptual" problems, for which conventional number-crunching microchips are particularly weak.

Mr Tiefenbrun said that his company had invested about £2 million in the development of the chip over in the past seven years, and had had backing from the Department of Trade and Industry.

Cabinet rules out extra health funds in Lawson Budget

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government made plain yesterday that there would not be any announcement of extra funds in the Budget for the National Health Service.

Instead it will be confined to an announcement of the widely expected tax cuts.

After yesterday's Cabinet had spent 45 minutes discussing an outline of the Budget strategy from Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Government took the unusual step of issuing a formal statement.

This declared: "The Cabinet today held the usual pre-Budget economic discussion. They reaffirmed the economic strategy.

"They welcomed the satisfactory prospects for the economy and agreed that economic policy should remain prudent and cautious.

"They noted that increases in public expenditure programmes for the coming year of £4,500 million had already been decided, announced, and would be debated next week.

"The Cabinet stressed that the forthcoming Budget is an occasion to review taxation and borrowing."

The announcement was a clear response to Labour's public campaign to "Make Budget Day National Health Day", aimed at pushing the Chancellor into using £2 billion of his revenues to increase NHS spending.

Ministers agree that the Budget statement does not rule out dipping into the contingency reserve to find extra funds later in the year to help health authorities to meet *any increase in nurses pay* recommended by the pay review body which will report to the Government before Easter.

In the Commons yesterday Mrs Margaret Thatcher emphasized that the Government had already committed an extra £1.1 billion to the NHS for next year beyond what had originally been planned. That is what it would cost the Chancellor to trim the standard rate of income tax by 1 per cent.

She said that the Government had given the health service the biggest cash increase it had ever known.

● A Tory-controlled committee of MPs is set to cause the Government serious embarrassment by rushing out, just days before the Budget, a report demanding immediate extra resources for the National Health Service.

The all-party Social Services committee is expected to endorse the demand of the National Association of Health Authorities for an immediate injection of £170 million, which is the amount by which the association believes its members are currently underfunded.

The committee will also insist that the Government funds in full the coming pay award and all future pay awards.

● The British Red Cross Society has complained to the Labour Party over what it regards as the theft of its internationally recognized symbol of neutrality.

Labour has printed one million copies of a campaign leaflet, supporting greater funding of the National Health Service and carrying a prominent red cross.

Yesterday Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch, tabled a Commons question to Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, suggesting that the Labour Party be prosecuted for using the symbol.

Destined for the Pole

Sir Ranulph Fiennes, the explorer (right), left Heathrow for Canada yesterday with Dr Mike Stroud (left) and Mr Oliver Shephard to start an attempt to reach the North Pole in record time using sledges made of lightweight plastic (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Health service crisis

Doctors' alert for patients

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

A group of consultants have placed local newspaper advertisements telling patients that their hospitals can admit only *emergency cases because of a* severe shortage of theatre nurses and financial cutbacks.

Hospital doctors and general practitioners in Redbridge health authority, east London, have announced that they can no longer treat patients to the best of their ability or within a reasonable time.

The doctors say in the advertisement in the *Ilford Recorder* that 20 per cent of the authority's beds are closed, including 40 per cent of all surgical beds.

The 170 doctors say that problems have been exacerbated because other London hospitals which previously accepted patients from Redbridge are now closing their doors to patients outside their own districts.

Operating theatres and surgical beds in Redbridge health authority have had to be closed because of staff shortages and there are now only two theatres open in the district, at King George Hospital, Ilford, and Barking Hospital.

The advertisement refers to shortage of "National Health Service doctors in Redbridge and adds: "Nationally agreed wages are poor and fail to attract suitable personnel".

Yesterday Dr Ann Beardwell, chairman of Redbridge district medical committee, said that routine procedures such as hip and hernia operations have not been carried out for several months and waiting lists are soaring.

"We are now having to say to patients that we will refer them for surgical procedures when we know that they may never get that operation.

"Even cancer surgery is now under threat. Women may have a lump in their breast and we cannot admit them for investigation for two to three weeks."

GPs suffered the brunt of complaints from patients but they now found it difficult to refer them elsewhere.

"When we do get staff we do not keep them as they go down *the road to the nearest private* hospital", she said.

Dr Arnold Elliott, representing Redbridge GPs, said that the day might come when GPs could refer patients only to consultants at local district general hospitals.

The British Medical Association recently reaffirmed its policy against the introduction of hospital catchment areas. It says GPs should be free to refer patients to the consultant or hospital best suited to their needs.

● Health officials insisted yesterday that a baby who had undergone a private heart operation at Birmingham Children's Hospital on Tuesday had not jumped the queue.

More than 100 babies and children are awaiting cardiac surgery under the National Health Service at the hospital, but the officials said the private patient had been treated according to medical need and not ability to pay.

A shortage of specialist nurses at the hospital has led to postponed operations on children in need of vital heart surgery.

Mr Babulal Sethia, a consultant cardiologist at the hospital, said the baby had been on the waiting list for several months and his heart operation had been cancelled more than once.

"He was operated on as a semi-emergency. He has been in hospital several weeks awaiting surgery and in no way has he been given priority treatment."

Hospital ancillary workers yesterday called for a rise of £14.62 a week to bring their pay in line with the lowest local government rate, which is £95.75 a week.

Leaders of four unions representing the 225,000 workers are also demanding performance pay, increases in shift rates, a reduction of one hour a week and an increase in special allowances.

The unions are the Confederation of Health Service Employees, National Union of Public Employees, General Municipal Boilermakers and Allied Trades, and Transport and General Workers Union. They say that most ancillary staff "are barely existing on poverty pay propped up by state benefits for those with families".

● *Four hundred nurses in* South Wales voted to strike on March 1, St David's Day. A joint National Union of Public Employees and Confederation of Health Service Employees ballot at three psychiatric hospitals, Glanrhyd, Parc and Pen-y-fai, near Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, was 82 per cent in favour. The strike is in support of more NHS cash.

Dublin election call ruled out

By John Cooney

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish prime minister, yesterday dampened speculation that he would announce a snap general election during his party's annual conference which opens this evening in Dublin.

Rumours that he was preparing to go to the country swept the Dáil late on Wednesday when his government was defeated unexpectedly on a private member's motion.

The Fianna Fáil government party lost that vote when one of its own backbenchers, Mr Willie O'Dea, of Limerick, broke ranks and voted against the proposed closure of a hospital in his constituency.

At the weekly meeting yesterday of the Fianna Fáil parliamentary party, Mr Haughey quickly restored discipline by obtaining unanimous support for a motion withdrawing the whip from Mr O'Dea.

Mr Haughey also restored party morale by firmly ruling out an immediate general election.

It was the third defeat on a public spending issue for the government, which took office last March.

The three defeats — two of them before Christmas — were not confidence issues requiring an election, but the stability of Mr Haughey's minority government was badly shaken by the unexpected defeat on Wednesday.

The loss of Mr O'Dea further weakens the position of the government, which could be toppled if opposition forces and independents combined on an important issue.

Mr Haughey's handling of the "shoot-to-kill" affair with Britain has almost certainly boosted his standing with voters enraged by what in the Irish Republic is perceived as British high-handedness.

However, Mr Haughey decided that an immediate election would divert attention away from his campaign to muster international support against Britain for refusing to prosecute Royal Ulster Constabulary officers implicated in the shootings of Irishmen investigated in the Stalker-Sampson inquiry.

Hermon to pay £4,000

An award of £4,000 damages was made against Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of Northern Ireland, in a civil action yesterday.

Mr Noel Carroll, of Mullacreevie Park, Armagh, alleged police ill-treatment, which included a gun being put to his head, in Armagh police station after he was arrested on September 24, 1985.

The judge, sitting in Craigavon, said RUC officers had covered up the truth with their account.

Mr Carroll, who has four children, said later that he and his family had been subjected to a campaign of harassment by the security forces, including *the murder of his brother* Adrian five years ago.

He said he had "no faith and no hope" that it would end.

Four soldiers of the Ulster Defence Regiment were jailed for life in 1986 for the murder of Adrian Carroll.

P&O cuts officers' days off

By Tim Jones

Shop stewards representing officers employed by P&O European Ferries at Dover were meeting last night to discuss "unnecessary and provocative" action by the company which may deprive them of 127 days off a year.

Members of the National Union of Marine, Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers (Numast), some of whom work only 80 days a year, said the company was "totally unjustified" in breaking its agreement with them.

They have been laid off on full pay because of the dispute between the company and the National Union of Seamen.

The holidays cut has been imposed by Mr Graham Dunlop, the company's managing director.

In a letter to the 600 officers, who are not in dispute with the company, Mr Dunlop says they will remain on paid leave during the time they are off work but will cease to accumulate their extra leave entitlement of 10.6 days per calendar month.

The additional days off are covered by Ship's Articles which apply only to service at sea.

P&O said it could not allow the agreement to continue when officers were not at work. It also accused Numast of refusing to discuss proposed changes to fleet operations, a charge the union rejected.

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Pay offer as legal aid fees concern mounts

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, has made a preliminary offer to the Law Society and the Bar for a rise in criminal legal aid fees, believed to be around 5 per cent, from April 1.

No decision has yet been made by the profession on whether to accept the offer, which coincides with deep concern on present fee levels, expressed to the Lord Chancellor at a recent meeting by Mr Derek Bradbeer, the President of the Law Society.

It also coincides with investigations into a number of solicitors' firms in London by the police and legal aid authorities for suspected fraud in submitting legal aid payment claims.

Mr Bradbeer would not discuss the negotiations yesterday, but said he was seeing the Lord Chancellor again today to express his concern about legal aid fees.

He said he was concerned that present fee levels were depressing the morale of legal aid practitioners and also causing a number of them to pull out of the work altogether.

American Express Bank Gold Card Overdraft Account

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TV-am dispute

Journalists reject strike call

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Journalists at TV-am yesterday rejected by two-to-one a call to support technicians dismissed by the commercial breakfast-time station. They are now expected to work with non-union crews.

The vote in the secret ballot, 60 to 29, defied a recommendation to go on strike by officials of the National Union of Journalists at the London studios and the union's national broadcasting organizer.

One senior reporter said last night: "This was a watershed vote. There is no turning back now."

After a two-hour meeting it was the senior reporters, many of whom appear regularly on screen, who swayed the result by rejecting any form of industrial action.

Officers of the journalists' union, the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance and electricians' unions were meeting last night to discuss future strategy, but TV-am journalists were in no doubt they would drop their opposition to working with technicians who are not members of the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians, which has been banned by the management.

Mr Bruce Gyngell, managing director of TV-am, is already setting about replacing the dismissed technicians, who had been on strike since November.

Reports that TV-am intended to import technicians from Australia to fill the gaps left by the cameramen, sound recordists and video engineers were described yesterday as "absurd and total nonsense".

Mr Gyngell will be looking to hire most of the 150 technicians he requires from television production companies.

Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the technicians' union, described the journalists' vote as foolish and short-sighted but not unexpected.

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Councils 'diverting millions meant for building new roads'

By Howard Foster, Peter Davenport and Ian Smith

County councils were accused by a Cabinet minister and road interests yesterday of switching millions of pounds intended for new highway contruction into other projects.

The councils are already under attack by the Department of Transport for holding back £148 million allocated by central government for road repairs.

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, complained that funds had been paid to county councils at a time when the condition of local roads were deteriorating.

But, he said, the councils were diverting the money to other projects, although the grants had increased by 28 per cent over the past two years.

His comments were supported yesterday by the British Road Federation, the group representing the road-users' lobby. It said that despite funding from central government, the county councils were more than £120 million underspent on capital road projects.

"Road maintenance and construction are being singled out almost uniquely for underspending", Mr Richard Diment, the federation's spokesman, said.

"The councils were meant to spend £617 million on new construction in the current financial year. Of that, £180 million comes from central funds and the councils match it.

"Of the remainder, the councils are only spending £111 million, leaving over £120 million outstanding.

"The situation is getting worse. The councils must be made to spend the necessary money to keep the roads in good condition, otherwise the whole thing could become very dangerous."

The Association of County Councils said yesterday that underspending on road maintenance was happening because the councils were faced with a choice of putting money towards road repairs or such fields as education and social services.

"Councils would be faced with the problem of which school you close", the association said. "There has not been any increase in real terms in the total grant paid to local government, nor in the total amounts which the Government is prepared to see local authorities spending on all their services."

At present, the road repair funds paid by the Government to the councils is included in the overall block grant and there are no powers to constrain the councils to earmark a similar allocation for road repairs, or the building of new roads.

"The arguments for underspending on both road aspects are parallel", the association said.

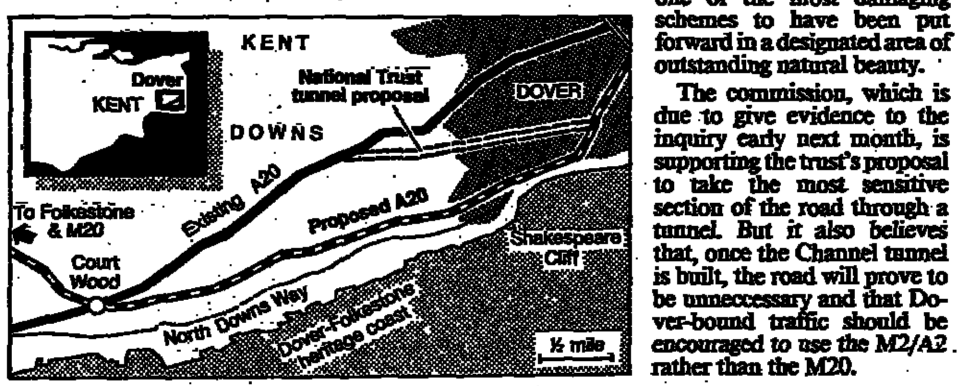
"We have to work within the rate support grant or we are penalized by central government for overspending."

Fears over the white cliffs

The Countryside Commission has expressed concern that the full implications of the proposed extension of the A20 across the white cliffs of Dover have not been fully appreciated by the public.

A public inquiry began last week into proposals for the eastern section of the road, at which the objectors are led by the National Trust, with the commission's backing.

Because the western section was included in the hybrid Channel Tunnel Act, the fear is that the entire road will be seen as part of the ancillary works associated with the tunnel's construction.



The commission says that the tunnel works are causing temporary disruption but the proposed new road would permanently scar the rolling chalk landscape between Folkestone and Dover.

Mr Ian Mitchell, the commission's south east regional officer, describes it as one of the most damaging schemes to have been put forward in a designated area of outstanding natural beauty.

The commission, which is due to give evidence to the inquiry early next month, is supporting the trust's proposal to take the most sensitive section of the road through a tunnel. But it also believes that, once the Channel tunnel is built, the road will prove to be unneccessary and that Dover-bound traffic should be encouraged to use the M2/A2 rather than the M20.

Putting on the style

Sir Clement Freud, the former Liberal MP and dog-food promoter, and Mr Ken Livingstone, Labour MP for Brent East and scourge of his party's leadership, don trilbies in London yesterday to promote the International Men's and Boys' Wear Exhibition which opens at Olympia on Sunday. Sir Clement, in green tweed jacket and trousers with co-ordinating shirt and tie, also sported his famous lugubrious look, while Mr Livingstone seemed far more cheerful about his brown tweed jacket and matching trousers, tie and shirt. (Photograph: John Rogers)

Speed vital in prosecutions for child abuse

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

Court cases involving child abuse are to be given greater priority by the police and prosecution services in an attempt to minimize the damage caused to youngsters.

The Government wants the ordeal for young child abuse victims to be over as quickly as possible and is to advise police to avoid long delays in bringing cases to court.

Mr John Patten, the Minister of State at the Home Office, said child abuse cases deserved the highest priority with the overriding consideration being to keep to a minimum the stress on young victims and witnesses.

New guidance is to be sent to the police and Crown Prosecution Service to try to ensure speedy progress for child abuse cases. "Stress on child victims and witnesses can be minimized by avoiding delays, wherever possible, in bringing such cases to court.

"The shadow of an impending court case should hang over a young child for as short a period as possible. Child abuse cases should not fail simply because the time between the alleged offence and the hearing has been so long that the young victim's recollection has been impaired."

Mr Patten added: "The damage done by child abusers to their victims must not be added to by avoidable delays in bringing criminal proceedings. These cases deserve high priority."

Dismissed pregnant woman wins her case

By John Spicer, Employment Affairs Correspondent

A woman made redundant by a local authority after becoming pregnant was unfairly dismissed, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

Mrs Maria Brown was a Youth Training Scheme supervisor for Stockton-on-Tees District Council, Cleveland. The scheme was reorganized and Mrs Brown, who had inquired about maternity leave, was interviewed for a job under the new system. The council made her redundant.

Several weeks later, in July 1985, an industrial tribunal in Middlesbrough ruled that Mrs Brown, of Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, had been unfairly dismissed. The following June an employment appeal tribunal reversed the decision.

Mrs Brown's union, the National Union of Public Employees, which had instigated the claim, took her case to the Court of Appeal. The judges backed the appeal tribunal, saying that the council was entitled to take into account Mrs Brown's need for maternity leave in selecting her for redundancy. The Court of Appeal refused the union leave to go to the Lords.

The union, though, petitioned for and won a hearing in the Lords.

After the Lords ruling, Mrs Brown, aged 35, said: "I did not expect that it would come all the way to the House of Lords. I am stunned and delighted by the decision."

Stockton-on-Tees District Council was ordered to pay costs, which are expected to be far in excess of the £6,000 compensation Mrs Brown was claiming.

If compensation cannot be agreed, an industrial tribunal will decide the amount.

Rover record

Austin Rover has won its biggest fleet-car order with a deal to supply Avis with 12,000 cars worth £110 million this year. It takes the company's orders from rental operators this year to 59,000 vehicles, close to its total fleet car sales in 1986.

Father helped ill woman die

A father helped his chronically ill daughter to kill herself to put an end to her suffering.

George Beecham, aged 63, checked every 15 minutes for four hours to make sure Mrs Lesley Ann Platt was not suffering as she gassed herself in the back of her car.

He called the police and said: "It was like walking your daughter to the gallows. My daughter is more important to me than the consequences of my action."

At one stage he put a quilt over Mrs Platt, aged 35, after she complained of feeling cold, Peterborough Crown Court was told yesterday.

Mrs Platt, a nursing sister married to an RAF officer, could no longer face life after recovering from cervical cancer only to find she had multiple sclerosis.

Beecham, of Costock Road, Nottingham, admitted aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the suicide of his daughter, and was given a 12-month suspended sentence.

Mr Richard Latham, for the prosecution, said Mrs Platt could hardly walk or sleep and had twice tried suicide.

Clutching a photograph of her father, she went with him to the garage of her house in Priory Road, Needingworth, Cambridgeshire.

Beecham said: "She put the pipe on the car and started the engine. She did it all herself because she didn't want me to get into trouble. I did it because that is what she wanted."

Postgraduates are giving 'poor value'

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government was severely criticized by an all-party Commons committee yesterday for its extraordinary lack of control over its £78 million postgraduate award scheme.

The Public Accounts Committee pointed to remarkable figures produced by the Comptroller and Auditor General showing that in some disciplines nearly four out of five postgraduate students failed to submit theses within four years of starting their research, if at all. Even in the best-run courses only one in two postgraduates submitted theses within four years.

In a scathing report, the normally restrained committee said it was "concerned and disappointed" that little had been done to improve this record despite serious criticisms made by the same committee eight years ago.

It accused the bodies which made the awards of being "more concerned with granting awards than with the value for money, including wider benefits to the economy, obtained from the timely completion of theses".

And it called for a system of sanctions to be operated against those universities that fail to meet pre-set submission targets.

In oral evidence to the committee, the Department of Education and Science had been unable to defend the very low submission rates which it admitted were in some cases "inexcusable", though it did argue that failure to submit a theses did not automatically mean a student's research was valueless.

The grants are awarded either by the department or by the four research councils. Submission rates for the department's awards in the humanities were just 23 per cent.

The Economic and Social Research Council had improved its submission rates from 17 to 35 per cent, but even 10 years after students had begun their research just 54 per cent had submitted their theses. Only the Science and Engineering and the Medical Research councils had submission rates of more than 50 per cent.

Committee of Public Accounts: Postgraduate Awards (Stationery Office; £3.70).

- Twenty-eight institutions are now on a blacklist published by the Economic and Social Research Council because too few of their postgraduate students submitted council-funded theses on time.

The blacklist policy bans new funding to institutions where fewer than 35 per cent of council students fail to complete theses in four years and is recommended to other funding bodies, notably the Department of Education and Science, by the Public Accounts Committee.

The council last month added eight institutions to the blacklist.

Nelson hair fetches £5,000

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

A lock of Nelson's "dear hair", snipped by his lover Lady Emma Hamilton, was bought for £5,000 yesterday.

The grey-blond hair is entwined as though in a loose lovers' knot and set in an oval frame. It was sent by an unhappy Lady Hamilton to Captain Jonas Rose, one of Admiral Lord Nelson's naval colleagues in 1807 – two years after Nelson's death at Trafalgar. Rose was then in charge of HMS Agamemnon.

A letter to Rose, auctioned with the hair, at Lawrence Fine Art in Crewkerne, Somerset, says: "I will send you when I go to Merton and have nerves strong enough to open the paper some of His Dear Hair. He loved & respected you . . . I rejoice you have got old Agamemnon, in happier days I have been often on board her." It is signed: "Your affectionate and grateful but unhappy Emma Hamilton . . . Horatia sends you a kiss".

The hair and letter were sold by a descendant of Captain Rose's elder brother, Henry. The estimate was between £1,000 and £2,000. The lot was bought on behalf of a private buyer by the Cirencester dealers Smallwood and Randall.

Bloomsbury Book Auctions in London sold a group of 11 letters copied from originals written by Lord Byron to John Hunt, his publisher, in 1822 and 1823 for £800 against an estimate of up to £450. The originals are widely scattered. The set includes a number of hitherto unknown poems.

A 280-volume *Specifications of Inventions* from the Patent Office, dated 1889 to 1904, and including "improvements in means for supporting bicycles" and "improvements relating to food-holders for bird-cages" fetched £2,800 – just below estimate.

British and Irish traditionalist and modernist paintings made a respectable, if unspectacular show at Christie's, the top lot being for "Twilight" – an atmospheric landscape by Sir George Clausen which sold to the Pyms Gallery for £7,150 against an estimate of up to £2,000. Leggatt Brothers bought a portrait of Eileen Joyce, the concert pianist, on behalf of the National Portrait Gallery for £792 (estimate £400 to £600).

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Ministers to remain accountable for their departments

Agencies to run executive side of government

PRIME MINISTER

New agencies, under chief executives, are to take over the day-to-day running of central government.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher told MPs in a statement that the executive functions of government — as distinct from policy decisions — are to be carried out, to the greatest possible extent, by agencies within departments under the day-to-day control of a chief executive.

She said that that would not require a change in the law. One of the first departments to be brought into the new scheme would be the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea.

These agencies would generally be within the Civil Service and their staff would continue to be civil servants. Each agency would be accountable to a minister who would in turn be accountable to Parliament for its performance.

The Government would develop a continuing programme for establishing agencies. A permanent secretary in the office of the Minister for the Civil Service would be responsible for managing the changes, through the head of the Home Civil Service, to the Prime Minister.

Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Opposition, said that a continuing review of the functions and performance of the Civil Service was necessary to improve its efficiency, accountability and service to the public.

Guidance notes had been given to senior civil servants with the suggestion that they should be read alongside the Prime Minister's statement and the document that had just been placed in the Vote Office.

The notes said that in a few cases it might be appropriate to set up executive agencies outside the Civil Service, for example by setting up private limited companies. If the Government was contemplating turning part of the Civil Service into a private limited company was it not the Prime Minister's duty to tell the House?

One paragraph of the notes said that MPs were to be encouraged to approach agency management in the first instance. That was a clear erosion of parliamentary responsibility.

The guidance said that the reduction in civil servant numbers had not reduced the service that the Civil Service provided, but had the Prime Minister never heard of the queues at DHSS offices or the 2,000 unopened letters at Lunar House, the immigration office in Croydon?

If there was to be a radical review of the Civil Service, could the Opposition be promised that changes would proceed by discussion with all parties in the House?

The Civil Service was not the property of any one government and to maintain confidence in its impartiality and efficiency, changes in its organization had to be made by consensus, not by confrontation.

Mrs Thatcher said that the executive agencies would generally be set up within the Civil Service. On some occasions it would be better to set them up outside. There would be consultation with the trade unions when they were set up.

MPs frequently wrote either to the manager of the local social security office or to an income tax inspector because they frequently got a much quicker reply that way and there was nothing unusual about it.

The numbers in the Civil Service had fallen. They were now 588,000, the lowest since the war. The numbers of particular departments including parts of the DHSS had increased as the need arose.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C) asked for confirmation that there would be no change in the relationship between ministers, civil servants and Commons select committees.

Mr Alan Beith, Liberal spokesman on Treasury affairs, said that he welcomed any developments in organization which allowed civil servants to exercise more personal responsibility, but he strongly opposed any attempt to stop MPs tabling questions on matters dealt with in the agencies.

Mrs Thatcher said there would be no change in the arrangements for accountability. Ministers would continue to account to Parliament for the work of their departments, including the work of the agencies.

Sir William Clark (Croydon South, C) asked whether the Prime Minister was satisfied that this streamlining would lead to better value for money.

Mrs Thatcher said that that was its purpose, as well as increasing personal responsibility.

Mr Michael Foot (Blaenau Gwent, Lab) said that one of the reasons for the low morale in the Civil Service was that the Prime Minister had appointed so many confirmed Thatcherites to some of the better jobs.

It would be very damaging for the country if she were to embark upon an attack on the Civil Service comparable to that she had made on the universities, the NHS and local authorities.

Mrs Thatcher said that she totally rejected that.

Mrs Thatcher said later that it was intended that there should be more flexibility on pay in the agencies and that there should be performance-related pay.

Mr Michael Heseltine (Henley, C) said that the logic of this was that there should be contracts for those in charge of executive agencies so that there was full personal accountability.

Would she consider the progressive extension of recruitment to the Civil Service by contract, as opposed to permanent life tenure?

Mrs Thatcher said: In the majority of the agencies, it will take place within the Civil Service, but this will not be exclusively so and I will consider what he has said in relation to those not established in the Civil Service.

If there were any fundamental changes in terms and conditions of pay, that would have to be in conjunction with, and after consultation with, the Civil Service. Recruiting had to be done under the established rules.

Mr Robert Sheldon (Ashton-under-Lyne, Lab), chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, asked how Mrs Thatcher would ensure a proper interchange between the agencies and Government departments.

Would she confirm that the National Audit Office would continue to be able to audit all the agencies and so present to the PAC and the Commons the essential information?

Mrs Thatcher said that in so far as the agencies were within the Civil Service, the National Audit Office would, of course, continue to apply. That would not be so where the agencies were set up outside.

Mr Michael Shersby (Uxbridge, C) asked how the agencies would be selected.

Mrs Thatcher said that at present there was a list of 12 suitable executive agencies to be set up. These had come from ministers.

THANK YOU... PRIME MINISTER
Sir HUMPHREY AWARD for Industry Straightforwardness Efficiency Speed etc

Mrs Thatcher: Agencies will be under the day-to-day control of a chief executive

Labour's NHS attack over Moore speech

HEALTH

A speech by Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Services, provided the ammunition for a Labour attack on the Government's handling of the NHS during questions to the Prime Minister.

But **Mrs Thatcher** said that Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Opposition, had based his questions on a false supposition of what Mr Moore had actually said.

Mr Hattersley asked whether the speech, to the Young Conservatives' Confererence in Eastbourne last weekend, represented official Government policy.

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. I went all the way through the speech (laughter). It was excellent.

Mr Hattersley quoted Mr Moore as saying, on the resources that he was allocated for spending on the health service this year: "I did not think it was enough". Did Mrs Thatcher endorse that view, or would she repudiate her minister?

Mrs Thatcher said that Mr Hattersley had left out a part of Mr Moore's sentence — (Conservative cheers). He had said: "I did not think it was enough in terms of the changes all of us would like to see as far as primary health care services are concerned".

Mr Moore had gone on to explain where the extra resources for primary health care were to come from.

"I may say, misreporting occurred in one paper, but in another paper it was quite accurate."

Mr Hattersley said that he would quote a further sentence from Mr Moore in its entirety. Mr Moore had said: "I wanted to see additional resources over and above those which I have secured".

As far as I can make out, all the country wants to see additional resources except the Prime Minister. Why does she not provide them (Labour cheers)?

Mrs Thatcher said that that sentence had referred to primary health care services and Mr Moore had gone on to say that he was going to get extra resources from charges which had already been before the House and of which Mr Hattersley had disapproved.

"The fact is, he has asked his question on a false supposition because he did not read the speech and he disapproves of the places from which the extra resources are to come."

Mr Moore had gone on to say that it had been the Labour Government that had first started the introduction of charges.

"Extra resources are coming next year. They are the biggest cash increase the health service has ever known — £1,100 million."

Nurses' protest inquiry wanted

DEMONSTRATION

Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk West, Lab) called for an investigation into reports that the police had jostled, punched and kicked nurses in uniform who were demonstrating in Whitehall in support of the National Health Service.

Some police officers had behaved like animals in their handling of the peaceful demonstration on February 3, he told Mr Douglas Hogg, Under-Secretary of State for Home Affairs.

"Does he not realize nurses and health service workers would not have to take to the streets if this Government had given them the same kind of generous pay increases as they have handed out to the police in recent years?"

Mr Hogg said that he understood from the Metropolitan Police Commissioner (Mr Peter Imbert) that the police actions had been taken in pursuance of his general duty to ensure the free passage of the highway and the requirement placed on him by Sessional Orders to keep the streets leading to the House of Commons free and open.

Mr Canavan's question had been discreditable. There had been no complaints against the police. Only four people had been arrested and only one of them was a nurse.

"What is intolerable is that the Labour Party assist in the passing of these Sessional Orders and then complain when they are operated in a fair and reasonable manner."

Mr William Walker (Tayside North, C) said that the police should be praised for their work at Westminster and their kindness and diligence in handling demonstrations.

Mr Hogg said that he expected to hear from Mr Imbert his deep disquiet at the unfounded attacks on the police by the Labour Party.

Office move to save cash

The financial savings and operational improvements that would result from the transfer of the UK Patent Office from central London to South Wales made the case for that move conclusive, **Mr John Butcher**, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said during a short debate early on Thursday.

But it was planned to retain an office in London, employing about sixty or seventy people, who would receive patent, trade mark and design business.

He was replying to **Mr Nicholas Winterton** (Macclesfield, C), who said that London was the proper home for the Patent Office. He was not urging the abandonment of the idea of relocation, but he was calling for discussion and consultation.

MPs in jail for debate

MPs are to debate the Ulster situation on Thursday of next week, despite the fact that some Ulster Unionist MPs are expected to be in prison on that day.

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab), a former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, pressed for the day for the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Acts 1978 and 1987 (Continuance) Order to be changed after it had been announced by **Mr John Wakeham**, Leader of the House.

Mr Rees said that he regarded the timing of the debate as unfortunate as a high proportion of Unionist members were going to be in jail.

Mr Wakeham said that he was sorry if MPs had other arrangements, but he could not alter the business. He thought that discussion of the Stalker-Sampson report would be possible during the debate.

Statement complete

The Prime Minister was asked at question time by **Mr John Hume** (Foyle, SDLP) (above) whether she approved of the principle enunciated by the Attorney General in his statement last month on the RUC that the interests of national security transcended the rule of law, even in cases of loss of human life.

Mrs Thatcher replied that she did not accept the description in the question as accurate in any way. The Attorney General (Sir Patrick Mayhew) had made a complete statement in the discharge of his duties. She had nothing to add (Labour protests).

Objection to leaks

The Chief Constable of West Yorkshire was under a responsibility to stop the leaks from his force of smears against Mr John Stalker by linking him to the death or murder of a Sergeant Speed, **Mr Dale Campbell-Savours** (Workington, Lab) said at question time.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, said that Mr Campbell-Savours was in no position to lecture anybody. The chief constable had handled himself throughout this whole business with high distinction.

Index error 'led to loss by very few'

A very small group of people, 175,000 out of 12 million, had been under-compensated for the error in calculating the Retail Price Index, which had affected pensioner's benefits, the Prime Minister, told MPs.

But, she said, more than two million people who had lost nothing by the error would nevertheless receive an £8 special payment.

The under-compensation had been of the order of £1 million and the over-compensation of the order of £16 million.

Mr Paul Flynn (Newport West, Lab) had said that there was widespread fury in the country at the "pig's breakfast" her Government had made of the ex-gratia payments.

"There are tens of thousands of war pensioners, the disabled, invalids and other pensioners who have been cheated by this chaos."

Nearly one in ten of all of those with combined pension books had lost.

Mrs Thatcher said that there had been no legal requirement on the Government — (protests) — to make these payments.

"We however estimated that the total estimated social security underspend was £109 million, on which special payments of over £101 million have been made to over 12 million people."

That was not the whole story. In addition, the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr Nigel Lawson) had made avalaible a further £7 million to voluntary charities specifically to help people in low-income groups.

Trident's sunken parts

Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) sought a Government statement on the loss two weeks ago of Trident parts from a ship in the Irish Sea.

He said that on February 5 vital parts of a Trident submarine fell off the deck of a Bahamian-registered tug. The next day, nothing apparently having been learnt, other parts fell off the deck. "Oscar Wilde had something to say on these matters", he said.

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, who had outlined next week's business, told him that he he did not have the details, but he would see what the Ministry of Defence had said and would write to Mr Dalyell.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Timetable motion on the Local Government Finance Bill.

Tuesday: British Steel Bill, second reading.

Wednesday: Debate on Government's expenditure plans for 1988-89 to 1990-91.

Thursday: Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Acts 1978 and 1987 (Continuance) Order.

Friday: Private members' motions.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:

Monday: Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Bill, third reading.

Tuesday: London Local Authorities Bill, second reading. Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill, report, first day.

Wednesday: Debates on developing disparities in opportunity and income and on the case for policies to reduce divisions in the community.

Thursday: Copyright, Designs and Patents Bill, report, second day.

Friday: Public Utility Transfers and Water Charges Bill, second reading.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private member's motion on rural development.

Lords (11): Debate on DTI White Paper.

Untried prisoners

Remand limits to be extended

HOME OFFICE

Limits on the length of time a person can be remanded in custody awaiting trial will cover the whole of Wales and most of England from April 1, **Mr John Patten**, Minister of State, Home Office, said at question time. They will be extended to cover the whole of England.

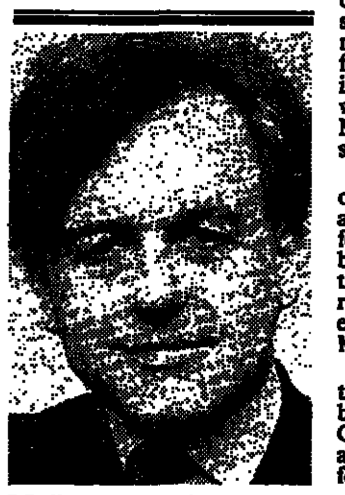
On December 31, the unsentenced prison population was about 10,480, not counting 474 mostly unsentenced prisoners held in police cells. That was just more than 22 per cent of the total prison population.

Mr Anthony Coombs (Wyre Forest, C) said that when the all-party penal affairs committee visited Wormwood Scrubs two weeks ago they had been told of a person remanded in custody for not buying a bus ticket. What plans did the Government have for a feasibility study of tagging or alternatives to prison?

Mr Patten said that that was a most interesting suggestion, which should be considered by the Home Secretary and himself.

Mr Gerald Steinberg (City of Durham, Lab) asked the Home Secretary to look at the experience of Scotland where prisoners must be brought to court within 110 days or freed.

Mr Patten: That is exactly what we are doing.



Mr Patten: Considering private management scheme

Mr Roger Gale (Thanet North, C) asked what consideration was being given to the private management of remand prisoners.

Mr Patten: We are greatly constrained by the law in this respect, but we are very interested in the suggestion and we are considering it.

Other Home Office questions included the following:

● Many MPs found the present arrangements for intervention on immigration cases unsatisfactory and the Government therefore hoped to put forward proposals for changes to improve the service within weeks, **Mr Timothy Renton**, Minister of State, Home Office, said during questions.

Mr Stuart Randall, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that he looked forward to the new proposals, but he reminded the minister that MPs were jealous of their rights and, if they were weakened, immigrants rather than MPs would lose.

Would the minister increase the number of staff and the building space at Lunar House, Croydon, to make sure that adequate services were provided for MPs?

Mr Renton said that he had many powers, but it was beyond him to increase the building space at Lunar House. The building was there and he could not increase it.

The Labour Party should stop facing in two directions at once on this issue. They complained about delays, but then voted against rule changes three weeks ago that would have removed two-fifths of cases a year from Lunar House. That was hypocrisy.

● Salema Begum, an Asian girl whose immigration case had involved the use of genetic fingerprinting, was to be allowed to remain in Britain after the satisfactory conclusion of inquiries, **Mr Timothy Renton**, Minister of State, Home Office, announced during questions.

He was thanked by **Mr James Lamond** (Oldham and Royton, Lab), who had asked when there would be a decision on the request by Salema, daughter of Mr Gura Miah, to remain with her parents in the United Kingdom.

Mr Lamond said that the case had put the girl and her family under considerable strain. He also wanted to offer the family's thanks to the minister for exercising his discretion.

Mr Stuart Randall, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, also welcomed the minister's decision. He added that the decision had been based on the genetic fingerprinting test and urged Mr Renton to "stop dragging his feet" and to start introducing these tests, which should be free of charge for poorer people.

Mr Renton said that he had the report on DNA, or genetic fingerprinting, in draft and was awaiting the approval of experts. The report would then be put in the Library of the House.

Threat of jail over poll tax

By Our Political Reporter

People who refuse to pay the poll tax ultimately face imprisonment, Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Local Government, said yesterday.

After pressure from the Rating and Valuation Association, he accepted the principle of an amendment to the Local Government Finance Bill tabled by the Tory MP Mr Edward Leigh that would allow imprisonment as a last resort and only for those who wilfully refuse to pay. The Bill as drafted had no such provision, although offenders can at present be imprisoned for not paying rates.

Mr Howard will bring forward a Goverment amendment at the Bill's report stage.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, shadow local government minister, said that the introduction of possible imprisonment was a "thundering disgrace" and would enable people to opt for prison as a way of protesting against the tax.

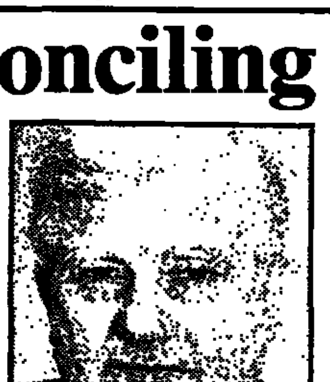
On reconciling the two Thatcherisms

If people want a sense of purpose, Harold Macmillan used to say, they should go to their bishops. It is, I suppose, only an extension of that view for Macmillan's successors to blame the bishops if people lack a sense of morality.

But why should Mrs Thatcher and her ministers suddenly be so concerned about the state of the nation's moral health? One should resist the temptation to be too cynical about this. Mrs Thatcher has never been a libertarian about standards of personal conduct, even if she has sometimes been surprisingly tolerant about individual lapses.

There is, however, a perfectly good political reason why she should now wish to focus attention on moral values. Throughout her first two terms, as she concentrated on reforming the British economy, she held the high ground of debate. She must want to do so still in the changed circumstances of her third term.

During her first eight years she managed to change the climate of public opinion on a range of interlocking issues — the need for competitive efficiency, for profits, for greater incentives and rewards for those who take risks and achieve more, and for accepting the discipline of market forces.



Geoffrey Smith

Her specific policies — on the trade unions, on privatization, on taxation and so forth — were therefore set within the broader conceptual framework of the enterprise culture. Even the critics and the sceptics acknowledged that she was pursuing a strategy, even if they did not think much of it.

But in her third term she is putting the emphasis on a different and in some ways a more difficult task. It is her social reforms that are now at the centre of controversy: on the community charge, the education system and potentially the health service. She cannot win the high ground of debate on these questions by dwelling on the virtues of the enterprise culture.

So she needs to demonstrate that alongside her economic strategy she has a concept of social morality into which her social policies fit. If she fails to do that she is in danger of seeming harsh and interfering. She would certainly be unable to change social attitudes as she has changed economic assumptions.

But is this current emphasis on morality consistent with Thatcherism as we have come to know it? In the past, ministerial speeches on social cohesion have often been regarded as a coded form of rebellion. That is clearly not the case now.

Mrs Thatcher herself has taken the initiative in opening a dialogue with the bishops, and in both his recent speeches on the theme Mr Douglas Hurd has had a great deal to say about individual responsibility. That has been the essence of what might be termed economic Thatcherism as well: people should stand on their own feet.

If people are expected to take more responsibility for their economic prosperity, it is logically consistent that they should also be asked to take more responsibility for their social conduct. Yet if the two ideas are not in conflict, they do put the emphasis on very different aspects of behaviour.

The Thatcherite individual of the first two terms was expected to compete hard in the economic jungle and to maximize his economic rewards. In doing so he would benefit not only himself, but the country as well.

The Thatcherite individual of the third term is expected not only to observe conventional standards of personal morality, but also to give his neighbour a helping hand.

There is as well a tension, if not a contradiction, between Mr Hurd's emphasis on personal responsibility and his remarks on social cohesion.

The most ardent Thatcherites have been wary of accepting that bad social conditions are to blame for a lack of social harmony. But in his comments on the inner cities Mr Hurd seems to acknowledge that there is a connection, even though he is careful not to suggest that the rise in crime can be explained by social circumstances.

I am not suggesting that social Thatcherism is incompatible with economic Thatcherism. Indeed, it may well be that economic Thatcherism would not be indefinitely acceptable to the British public unless there appeared to be a broader social dimension as well.

Nor do I believe that there is something essentially phoney about social Thatcherism. It was not only hard work and thrift that Mrs Thatcher had in mind when she espoused Victorian values. She probably believes that she knows better than the bishops how people in this country ought to behave. But she still has to convince them that she cares as deeply about social life as she does about economic prosperity.

Pact allows Scots to have committee

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Government and Opposition business managers have finally hammered out a compromise that will enable an all-party Scottish affairs select committee to be established.

After prolonged behind-the-scenes negotiations between Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, and Mr Donald Dewar, leader of Labour's Scottish MPs, both sides have agreed to a committee on which the Tories will retain a majority by putting on two MPs from English constituencies as well as three Scots. Labour will have three members, including the chairman, and the Liberals one.

The three parties will put their nominations to the committee of selection next Wednesday. The Scottish Nationalists are likely to protest fiercely at their exclusion, but they will be overruled by a vote on the floor of the House.

The only possible stumbling block now is if the Tory whips are unable to find two MPs from English constituencies willing to serve. As the committee often meets in Scotland, that is not inconceivable.

The agreement ends a controversy that has been boiling away since the general election eight months ago when Tory backbench representation in Scotland was reduced to just five.

Labour agreed to reduce the 13-member committee to 9 so that the Government could retain its majority, but the Government ran into embarrassing trouble when two of its backbenchers, Mr Bill Walker and Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, refused to serve on it.

Just before Christmas, it appeared as if the Government was ready to abandon the committee altogether when at the end of a Commons debate it voted simply to note a report from the Committee of Selection saying that it had been unable to nominate a committee. Labour said that that showed "total contempt for the people of Scotland".

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Tube 'cover-up' claim

Lessons of fire six months before disaster 'ignored'

By Paul Vallely

Six months before the King's Cross Underground disaster a similar fire occurred on a wooden escalator at another busy London Tube station. But an internal report, whose recommendations might have saved lives at King's Cross, was not implemented, its author claimed *yesterday*.

The earlier fire was at Green Park station in the West End in June last year. Once again a smouldering wooden escalator burst into flames towards the end of the evening rush hour and large numbers of passengers blundered blindly around subterranean tunnels in thick black smoke, many of them wilfully ignoring staff instructions not to climb to the surface.

The report was written by a London Underground employee, Mr Gary Brown, a station foreman on the Metropolitan line. It was sent to three senior London Underground officials but went unacknowledged until after the King's Cross fire.

Mr Brown and three colleagues were off duty but happened to be passing through the station as the fire broke out and rushed to fight the fire. The report he prepared the following day claimed that there were too few station staff to cope. The incident showed how badly trained staff were in fire-fighting. It also highlighted problems such as a lack of keys to vital machine rooms and lack of maps of the station's layout. It laid particular emphasis on the danger of trains which, having been instructed not to stop, sped through far too quickly, fanning the flames.

Yesterday Mr Brown, who has *since left his job after a* serious assault by a drunken passenger, protested that no action had been taken on his report.

"I was not invited to speak to senior London Undergound officers until after the King's Cross disaster. It is quite clear that there was a cover-up after Green Park and now London Underground are deeply embarrassed."

In a second report submitted to the authority last month Mr Brown was critical of staff training on fire-fighting and on the mechanics of escalators and lifts.

That report said: "Station staff in general are not taught the correct procedure in exingishing or controlling a fire, be it only small".

More stringent training was needed on fire-fighting and on evacuation of stations. More staff and higher-calibre recruits were needed. Station staff's requests for removal were often ignored by the authorities. Inflammable materials were regularly stored underground.

Trains fanned the flames

Mr Gary Brown's graphic account of the fire in Green Park underground station contains a number of obvious similarities with the eye-witness reports of the King's Cross disaster six months later. It says:

"We could smell burning and there was a haze in the air in the booking hall at the top of the wooden escalators. One of them, the Number Three, was stopped. There was a lot of white smoke oozing out from a point about 15 feet from the top. There were two railmen (ordinary members of LU *staff*) at the top who said the fire was now out.

"We went down one of the other escalators. At the bottom we turned and saw that orange flames, about three inches high, had appeared. Three of my colleagues ran back up to find the station superviser. Two of us went down on to the platform to find a phone to call the Line Controller. The phone was not properly marked so we wasted a few minutes on this. When we got through we told him to call the Fire Brigade.

"When I got back to the fire one of my friends had emptied a fire extinguisher on it to no effect. The flames were now two feet high and the smoke was turning black. It was filling the booking hall and making it difficult to see. We knew there was a "water fog" system to spray water on to the escalator but it was switched on from the machine room which was locked. The station supervisor, who has the key, could not be found. Passengers were still using the other escalator. No-one was stopping them at the top".

The report says that flames reached three and a half feet and panelling and the escalator handrail were alight. It continues: "By now trains were non-stopping, though many of them were going through at 20 mph instead of the 5mph recommended. They displaced air and fanned the flames. Each one drew more smoke down from the fire to the platform area. We had to cover our faces with handkerchiefs as the smoke was very acrid and burnt out throats. We flagged one down and put the remaining passengers on it.

"About half an hour after we saw the first smoke the Fire Brigade reached us on the platform".

Fire survivor tells of panic in hunt for exits

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

Passengers panicked and screamed as *they groped their* way through thick smoke to find the exits from King's Cross Underground Station during the fire which killed 31 people last November.

Other passengers turned and ran down an up escalator which was carrying them towards the fire, the London inquiry into the disaster was told yesterday.

Miss Lesley Bonner, aged 30, a *television producer*, said in a statement that she arrived on the Northern Line platform at King's Cross at about 7.40pm on November 18 and intended to change on to a Victoria Line train.

Instead she was directed up the Victoria Line escalator to the surface by a man who shouted: "Get out, there is a fire. Move quickly." Halfway up she became aware of the heat and when she reached the top "it was like opening the door of the oven.

"The heat was stinging my face; the *smoke by now was much thicker* and was turning black." She saw a fireman in the ticket hall who looked surprised that people were still entering.

"In panic I ran though the booking hall, up the steps towards the Metropolitan Line, only to be confronted by screaming and stampeding passengers from the Metropolitan Line. To avoid getting trampled on, I turned right to another passageway. "I was half way along the passageway and realized that other passengers were leaving by an exit behind me. I retraced my steps back towards the Euston Road exit."

She said many people were leaving by that exit "and they were all panicking". She found her way to a flight of steps leading to Euston Road and safety.

Apart from two officials at the foot of the escalator no one "gave any indication on what was happening nor was there anybody giving directions on how to leave the station".

Another passenger, Mr Andrew Lee, a merchant banker, said in a statement he was just under halfway up the Victoria Line escalator "when suddenly from the right hand side of the booking office a wall of flames came across the top of the escalator".

He and other travellers turned and hurried down the escalator, which was still moving upward. Falling debris bounced from the sides of the escalators, causing some panic.

A fire officer restored "some semblance of order" by calling out: "Don't panic". Mr Lee and other passengers then boarded a northbound Victoria Line train and left King's Cross.

The inquiry continues on Monday.

Profiting in male precincts

Finalists, from left, Nicola Brookes, Clare Gallagher, Fiona Gilmore and Pamela Morgan, with Sophie Mirman, below

By Alan Hamilton

Presenting, as attendants upon the Altar of Commerce, five wise personifications of Enterprise, Power, Charisma, Innovation and Tenacity who did not get where they are today by being caught without oil in their lamps.

This year's finalists in the Businesswoman Of The Year Award, sponsored by the Institute of Directors, are Nicola Brookes, finance director of a materials company; Clare Gallagher, production planning manager at ICI's Huddersfield works; Fiona Gilmore, managing director of a design consultancy; Pamela Morgan, *managing director of* a Nothern Ireland car spares business; and Sophie Mirman, chairman of the retail chain Sock Shop International.

They are proof that women can perfectly well succeed in what are traditionally regarded as horny-handed trades.

Sophie Mirman could not join the main photograph because of advanced pregnancy, the argument most commonly employed by men as a reason for women not invading the higher reaches of business.

The award was instituted 14 years ago as a memorial to the Widow Clicquot, who founded a champagne house against all the odds of being a woman. She never touched the stuff unless happy or sad, lonely or in company, thirsty or replete.

Past winners have set a pace that most men would envy. Last year's winner was Jennifer Rosenberg, who began life as a secretary at Marks & Spencer and ended running her own manufacturing business employing 1,600 people and selling back clothes to her former employers. The year before, the award was taken by Patricia Grant who, not content to be a wife thawing out frozen dinners, set up a company in the north of Scotland manufacturing freezer cabinets.

One of the five, survivors of more than 50 nominations, will next month receive the Businesswoman of the Year award from Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. She will no doubt take comfort from the fact that, although he is a mere man, his boss is not.

Weekend food prices

Fish to fall as weather boosts catches

Calmer weather has meant the *fishermen* are back at sea. Good catches are predicted, which should be reflected in reasonable prices today and Saturday. This week prices of some varieties were still high.

Quality haddock and cod fillets were retailing at £2.70 a lb. Grey mullet at £1.40 a pound is good value. Herring, *mackerel* and sprats are a consistently good buy at an average 87p, 70p and 50p a lb respectively.

Lemon and Dover sole are both cheaper this week although the price varies depending on area. Plaice fillets are about £2.70 a lb, £1.40 on the bone. Shark steak is about £3.40 a lb and sword fish about £4.

Shellfish are plentiful and mussels, at 55p a pint, are fine value. At Billingsgate this week there were superb Canadian lobsters at around £6.50 a lb. Safeway stores have large New Zealand mussels at 75p for six.

This is a good week to buy home produced *lamb* as prices have dropped considerably. In the South-east some cuts are down 9p to 12p a lb, making the average price of whole leg £1.77 a lb. In the rest of England and Wales the average price is £1.70.

Beef topside and silverside is an average £2.28 a lb and forerib on the bone £1.58. Whole leg of pork is around £1.03 a lb and boneless shoulder about £1.34.

Whole fresh chicken is between 68p and 98p a lb, corn fed chicken is 88p to 99p a lb and boneless breast £2.09 to £2.69.

Special meat offers this week include Tesco fresh *home produced lamb* shoulders at 94p a lb and fresh minced beef 98p a lb. Dewhurst, in the South-east, topside and silverside from £2.28 a lb and rump steak from £2.89 a lb. Presto pork supremes £1.78 a lb and steak and kidney £1.28 a lb. Sainsbury topside of beef £1.98 and extra lean mince *£1.44 a lb*. Bejam New Zealand chump chops £1.29 a lb, and diced beef steak £3.38 for a 2lb pack.

This year's crop of home grown comice pears is up about 20 per cent on last year, prices are between 30p and 45p a lb. Cox's are 50p to 65p a lb and early forced rhubarb is 35p to 55p a *lb*. Red Cape plums and golden gaviotas are between 60p and 85p a lb.

Home grown vegetables are plentiful with cauliflowers from 40p to 60p each. Brussel sprouts are 16p to 26p a lb and cabbages from 20p to 30p a lb.

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Rise in jail staff aims to end crisis

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A substantial increase in the number of prison officers in England and Wales was announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

He said that 1,360 additional prison officers are to be recruited in 1988-89 as well as others to replace wastage.

The Home Office believes that the expansion programme will help to resolve a continuing dispute with the Prison Officers' Association over manning levels and changes in working practices.

The increase is also timed to coincide with the opening of three new jails, accommodating some 1,500 prisoners, in the next few months.

It will bring the total establishment for prison officers in England and Wales to more than 20,000. The Home Office said the increase was probably the biggest yet.

The dispute with the Prison Officers' Association over changes in overtime and working practices has led to action in all prisons – ranging from refusal to fill in forms to refusal to accept new inmates.

There has also been discontent among officers at Brixton, which was raised with Mr Hurd by Mrs Ann Taylor, the Labour MP for Dewsbury.

She asked him, before he made his announcement: "Do you take seriously the letter sent to you by the Brixton Prison Officers' Association warning that Brixton will burn to the ground and prison officers will be seriously injured or even killed unless you take urgent action to improve staffing levels?"

Mr Hurd replied: "I take seriously representations from Brixton and we are in close touch with the POA and their local branches in several London prisons".

Prisons due to open later this year are: The Mount Youth Custody Centre, on the border of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, Swaleside Training Prison in Kent and Garth Training Prison in Lancashire.

● Ports and airports have been put on the alert after two drug smugglers escaped from a prison in Devon.

The two men, one Dutch and one German, scaled a 17 foot high wall and then cut through the perimeter fence at Channings Wood prison near Newton Abbot.

Perestroika's voice at the Reform Club

Enter a hardliner, armed with one-liners

By Peter Stothard

The official spokesman of Soviet *perestroika* came to London's Reform Club yesterday, proclaimed himself very much "at home" there, then warned his audience that the East and West were "hostages to each other till the end of time".

Mr Gennady Gerasimov – US TV star of the Washington summit – once again belied his Western-cut suit and Western-trained manner by sharply accusing the Americans of dragging their feet at Geneva and likening last week's naval "provocation" in the Black Sea to the U2 incident which broke down the Paris Summit in 1960.

He confessed, however, that he was happier with the US Government now that Mr Weinberger had been replaced at the Pentagon. He said that Dr Waldheim should be assessed on his record at the UN where "during his Secretary Generalship he didn't send anyone to the gas chambers". And he promised that, after withdrawal from Afghanistan, there would be "no coming back" – whatever type of government came to power there.

The centrepiece of his exchange with a lunchtable of journalists, hosted by Independent Television News, was the state of East-West relations. The man who speaks for Mr Gorbachov warmed to his theme after two pints of the best bitter the Reform Club could provide.

He was scornful of Nato attempts to modernize its weaponry. "The man is dead", he said, "but the beard grows on for a few days. If we modernize it is only to keep up with Mrs Thatcher".

He attacked the Strategic Defence Initiative as "technologically impossible". "Counter-measures will be ten times cheaper. We object to it not because it makes our weapons obsolete but because nothing driven by technology can be sufficiently fail safe. In that sense, we are hostages to each other to the end of time."

He was waiting for the results of Mr Shultz's visit to Moscow before he could predict a date for the summit. He seemed to relish, however, a clash with Mrs Thatcher's vist to Poland at the end of May. Asked whether he felt Mr Shultz's more emollient attitude to SDI truly represented the views of the US administration, he said he was much happier now that Mr Richard Perle had left and that Mr Weinberger had been replaced by Mr Carlucci.

"Mr Carlucci is on good speaking terms with our Defence Minister, Mr Yazov. The changes in Washington are very favourable from our point of view".

"The summit", he said, "would definitely take place unless there was something like the U2 incident". He attacked the recent clash between US and Soviet ships in the Black Sea as "unnecessarily provocative at this time".

What about opposition within the Soviet Union to a Strategic Arms deal, he was asked. "There was none", he claimed, adding (as though he were before an audience in an SS20 factory) that "those who had dedicated their lives to the development of those weapons would be moved to other jobs."

He was also asked about the Waldheim affair: did the Soviet Union regret having proposed Dr Waldheim to be Secretary General of the UN? "We don't discuss it much" he said. "It's history already. He was a good Secretray General of the United Nations. You must see him in relation to his time. He didn't send anyone to the gas chambers when he was at the UN."

Did he have any preference between President Bush or President Dole? "We are still preparing dossiers on them", he replied.

He had not been to Britain for more than a decade. Had he noticed any changes? "There had been no changes at Claridges", concluded Mr Gorbachov's master of the one-liner.

Gennady Gerasimov, the man from Moscow: "very much at home" after two pints of bitter.

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Closures warning on steel sell-off

By Kerry Gill

Privatization of the British Steel Corporation as a single entity would mean the closure of the Ravenscraig and Dalzell plants in Scotland, an independent report has concluded.

The study by Arthur Young, the international accountants and financial advisers, says the closures would cost the Scottish economy £100 million a year and cause up to 11,000 job losses.

The only way to save the plants, the report suggests, is for Ravenscraig, the Shotton plant in North Wales and Dalzell to be privatized as a separate group, and financed as a profitable venture by private investors.

According to the study, released yesterday, only by following the so-called RSD option could the Scottish steel industry hope to have a healthy and commercially viable future.

If BSC was privatized as a single unit, it would not be in its interests to keep Ravenscraig operating beyond 1991 nor Dalzell open after 1994.

Dr Jeremy Bray, Labour MP for Motherwell South, said the implications of the report were "extremely serious" and the RSD option would be vigorously recommended to the Government.

"The RSD proposal is wholly in line with the Government's policy on privatization and competition", he said yesterday.

The present plan to privatize BSC in a single block was the "soft option" but by combining Ravenscraig, Shotton and Dalzell in a separate group to the rest of BSC both competition and profitability would be increased.

The scheme has also been welcomed by the Ravenscraig workforce as a way of saving the plant. Mr Tommy Brennan, shop stewards' convenor, said the Government must give the RSD option serious consideration.

Closure of the plants would deliver a body blow to the economy of Lanarkshire and would have a knock-on effect throughout Scotland, he said.

The study also concludes that if Ravenscraig and Dalzell were closed, then other plants such as Clydebridge, Cambuslang, near Glasgow, and the Hunterston ore terminal on the Ayrshire coast would also close.

Schools may raise intake of infants

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

More schools may accept children under five as a result of the Education Reform Bill, even though they often lack suitable facilities, a conference organized by the National Foundation for Educational Research was told yesterday.

Miss Caroline Sharp, a researcher with the foundation, said a survey in 1986 had shown that many children aged four were being admitted to classrooms "which lack the staffing and resources to meet their social and education needs".

She said: "Heads competing for pupils, particularly in rural areas, tend to lower the admission age in order to encourage parents to send children to their school.

"It is probable that more schools in the future will react to the new, more competitive scene by lowering the age of admission to school."

That would particularly be the case in areas with few council-run play groups or nurseries.

Miss Sharp said that national tests at the age of seven will mean that teachers will be under increasing pressure to use a more formal curriculum for four year olds instead of "exploration" teaching methods involving play-based learning or theme work.

The foundation's research showed that most local authorities which admit pupils aged four to infant, primary or first schools each year were not providing the "nursery conditions" which were recommended recently by an all-party Select Committee. Of 56 authorities, only 10 had the recommended class sizes of 26 or fewer, and eight had full-time ancillary assistants for classes with pupils aged four. Only seven authorities allowed the young to go to school part-time.

● The Association of Christian Teachers warns today that religious education could be abused by left-wing authorities. In its journal the association criticizes the Bill for leaving religious education out of the national curriculum's foundation subjects.

Government defeated on Lords dog scheme

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

The House of Lords inflicted an embarrassing defeat on the Government last night requiring Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, to consider bringing in a dog registration scheme to replace the licence.

Peers backed an all-party amendment with the support of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the National Farmers' Union and the Country Landowners' Association, giving Mr Ridley the power to set up a scheme.

It was the Government's second defeat in a week, and third in this session, in the House of Lords.

The Government came in for criticism for scrapping the 37p licence under the Local Government Bill without putting anything in its place.

Lord Hesketh, a government Whip, said that the scheme would "lead us into an expensive and ineffective blind alley".

House of Lords sources said it was unlikely that the Government would try to throw out the amendment since it had the support of many Conservative and independent peers.

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Rent subsidy for council tenants may be abolished

By David Walker

The Government is proposing to abolish the £477 million a year subsidy that councils pay to keep down the rents of their houses and flats with dramatic effects on the amount council tenants will have to pay.

The move, which will affect tenants in nearly 4.5 million properties throughout England, will be contained in a housing Bill to be introduced in the autumn. The Department of the Environment has indicated it would come into effect in April 1990, when the poll tax is first levied.

The new regime would have the effect of doubling council rents in inner-city areas, especially inner London, and is likely to act as an incentive for council tenants to opt out of local authority control under the Government's "pick a landlord" scheme.

The Bill will also have the effect of cutting rents, at least in certain districts in the South-east where in recent years rents have generated a surplus for councils which they have used to keep down rates. The Government is to forbid transfers between housing and general accounts.

Council rents in England average £17.20 a week. Ministers have been pressing for cuts in the subsidy from rates to rents paid by big city councils, pointing to the fact that council rents have been falling as a proportion of earnings and are now 7.7 per cent of average weekly earnings.

The Government wants to "ring fence" the accounts which councils must keep for their housing, and prevent either money coming in from rates or poll tax to help keep rents down, or money paid by council tenants being used to subsidize poll tax.

The effect in a London borough such as Camden will be dramatic, pushing average rents up to nearly £40 week — 17 per cent of average weekly earnings.

In addition inner-city councils will lose out under the Government's rate support grant system since their eligibility for support is calculated from the amount they pay in rent subsidy.

Mrs Rita Hale, of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, said yesterday that under the Government's proposals, poll tax payers in inner London would not actually benefit from the reduction in subsidy to tenants.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities agrees with the Government that housing accounting needs to be reformed, but a spokesman said yesterday that councils should be given the freedom to make up their own minds about local circumstances

One direct effect of the Government's move will be to push council rents up to the level of rents in the private rented sector.

● Ministers are considering a proposal to offer council house tenants a lump sum as a deposit for a home in the private sector as a way of cutting long waiting lists.

They believe that a cash offer of up to £10,000 could drastically reduce council waiting lists and cut the costs of providing the homeless with bed and breakfast accommodation in hotels.

The Government is also anxious to clamp down on the widespread use by local councils of bed and breakfast accommodation which it is estimated will cost £104 million this year.

The average cost of keeping a family in hotel accommodation is £11,000 a year and as well as the expense, Ministers are concerned at the effects on young couples trying to bring up families.

Ministers argue that many of these families could be housed in council property if council tenants were encouraged to move into private housing with the offer of a lump sum.

There is strong opposition from the Treasury which fears the scheme would cost too much.

Ravages of time threaten the Dales landscape

By Peter Davenport

The dry stone walls and field barns of the Yorkshire Dales, such as these at Keld, have for centuries been an integral part of a distinctive and unchanging landscape. Now they may be lost for ever unless more than £1 million can be raised, Mr Bill McIntyre fears.

Mr McIntyre (above), building conservation officer for the Yorkshire Dales national park, estimates that there are as many as 10,000 stone field barns in the 680 square miles, each one serving three or four fields.

Some, such as those in an area known as Gunnerside Bottoms, are in excellent condition and form an essential part of the scenery. He wants to see that quality repeated throughout the Dales.

There are countless miles of dry stone walls which simply could not be built economically today; in Swaledale alone it has been calculated that it would take 500 years for a gang of men, working 365 days a year, to replace all the stone walling.

Mr McIntyre said: "My ambition is to preserve every barn and mile of wall in the Dales. It is not just important locally but it has national and international significance. This pattern of farming is unique."

Mr Richard Harvey, the national park officer, said: "We recognize that unless we can find an acceptable solution and make significant progress on it within the next five to 10 years, this distinctive landscape may have gone beyond the point of no return".

The authority is to launch a scheme that will pay the farmers of the Dales to conserve the dry stone walls and field barns even if they are no longer using them,

Changes in farming methods have made redundant the original use of the barns, as places where cows would be fed and milked. The cost of repairing them in traditional materials has been too high for the upland farmers working on the narrow margins between profit and loss.

English Heritage, which says the barns and walls are part of an historic landscape, has agreed to match any funding the Park can raise towards the scheme and it is hoped to have £100,000 a year available beginning in 1989. The scheme is expected to run for between 10 and 15 years.

Many of the barns, some of which are eighteenth century, have been stripped of their original slate roofs.

(Photograph: Chris Harris)

Amnesty calls for review of Broadwater Farm riot trials

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Amnesty International called on the Government yesterday to review trials held after the Broadwater Farm estate riot in north London in 1985 during which PC Keith Blakelock was murdered.

In a report, Amnesty claims most detained suspects, including juveniles, were denied access to lawyers and family during long periods of interrogation. A boy aged 13 later charged with murder was questioned four times for a total of 15 hours, most of the time wearing only a blanket and his underpants.

The judge ruled the police had without reasonable cause refused him access to a lawyer and that "unreasonable and unjust burdens were put on the child". His admission was ruled unreliable and he was acquitted.

Amnesty says some detainees were tricked into signing documents waiving rights. A number claimed they signed statements under pressure, sometimes without being allowed to read them. Amnesty adds detainees consistently alleged they were threatened and forced to make admissions.

Many claimed they admitted to lesser charges under threat of being charged with murder. Some alleged that police threatened them with prolonged detention, physical violence or the arrest of relatives and friends. Amnesty cannot establish the validity of the allegations but notes that in some cases judges vindicated them by ruling the statements unreliable.

Admissions formed the basis of prosecution evidence in many of the cases such as murder, riot and affray, the report adds.

Amnesty emphasizes its report is concerned only to assess whether trials were fair. It cites a decision by the European Commission on Human Rights to support its view that such fairness may be affected by the infringement of detainees' rights in the pre-trial phase as well as during the court hearing.

Amnesty's report was sent to the Government last November. The next month, the Government said an internal investigation into complaints was "moving ahead".

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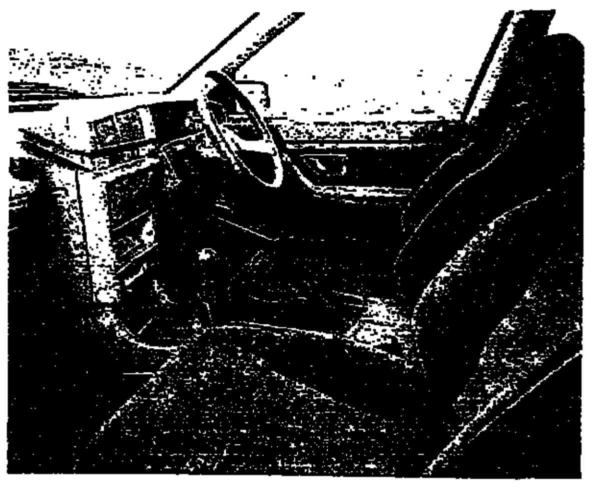

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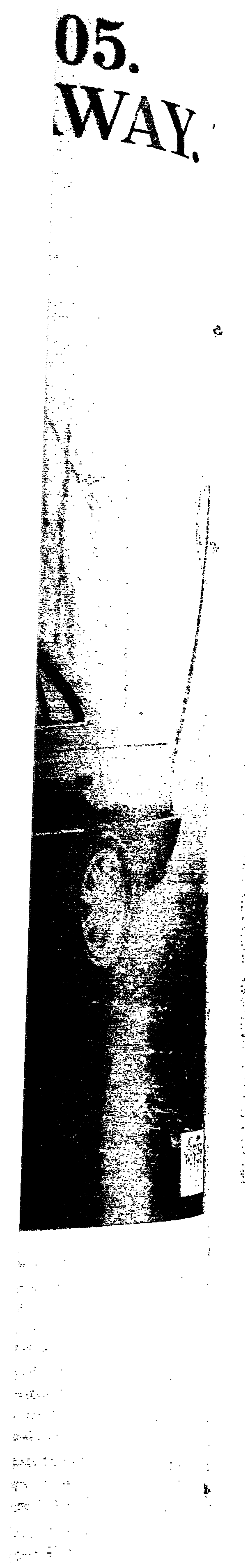


صكذا عن الارحل

WORLD ROUNDUP

Howe to discuss Kabul coalition

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, is to hold talks today with a senior Pakistani official *on demands for the* creation of a coalition government in Afghanistan before Soviet troops withdraw (Andrew McEwen writes).

Mr Zain Noorani, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, was due in London *last* night after meeting Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, in Washington on Wednesday. Mr Shultz will convey Islamabad's demand for the coalition government to Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet counterpart, when they meet next week.

But Sir Geoffrey *got the impression that the* Kremlin was unwilling to discuss the subject when he was in Moscow on Monday and Tuesday. Whitehall sources said Mr Shevardnadze and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, refused to enlarge on the announcement that Soviet troops could begin pulling out on May 15 if agreement is reached at next month's Geneva talks.

Leading article, page 15

Goria survives vote

Rome — The Italian Prime Minister, Signor Giovanni Goria, *last night won a vote of confidence* from Parliament that should allow him to pass essential financial legislation (A Correspondent writes). He is then expected to step down as negotiations for a new government resume. He resigned last week after being repeatedly out-voted in *Parliament*. But, because of the need to pass the overdue financial package, President Cossiga sent him back to Parliament so that the legislation could be *approved before a fully-fledged* government crisis developed.

Worrall's new party

Johannesburg — Dr Denis Worrall, the former South *African Ambassador to* Britain, is to launch a new political party, provisionally called the Independent Party, which aspires to offer white voters "a viable, workable and credible alternative" *to the Government of* President Botha (Michael Hornsby writes).

Dr Worrall told *The Times* yesterday that the founding meeting of the new party would be held on March 17 in Somerset West, the main town of the Helderberg constituency in the western Cape. A national congress is planned in Durban later in the year. The new party hopes to gain a parliamentary seat through a *merger with the Natal-based* New Republic Party.

Denial by Ethiopia

Addis Ababa (Reuter) — Ethiopia intends to expand its resettlement programme for drought victims, despite allegations overseas that the Addis Ababa Government is *forcing people to take* part in the scheme, Mr Fikre-Selassie Wogderess, the Prime *Minister*, said.

He announced that the charges by the BBC and other Western media were part of "a poisonous and coordinated" campaign designed to turn the international community against *his country*. The BBC reported last week that Ethiopian troops shot dead 20 drought victims in the northern town of Korem because they refused to move to more fertile land in the south and west. *Addis Ababa* has dismissed the reports as lies.

Tibet tourist curfew

Peking (Reuter) — Police have imposed a night-time *curfew* on foreigners staying in Lhasa during Tibet's new year and religious festivals, tourists said yesterday. Official notices posted in budget hotels warned foreigners not to join in or *take pictures of any disturbances, one Western student* said.

The 10*pm-to-8am* curfew began on Wednesday, the eve of Tibet's lunar new year, and will be in force until March 5 when the 12-day Great Prayer Festival ends. About 30 foreign tourists are staying in Lhasa.

Car crash in basilica

Brussels — The tranquillity of the Roman Catholic basilica in Scherpenheuvel has been shattered by a young man who died after crashing his sports car into the church's altar rail (Michael Dynes writes).

According to a witness, Henri Censters, aged 22, was involved in a race with another car along the 100-yard driveway to the church. His car then crashed through a plate glass door, a steel gate and half a dozen pews before being brought to a *halt by the communion rail*. In addition to the structural damage caused by the accident, a number of valuable art objects were also severely damaged.

Envoy rejected

The British Government has refused a visa to Mr Hor Nam Hong, the Cambodian Ambassador in Moscow, who had been chosen by the *Phnom Penh* regime to make an unofficial visit this week (John Pedler writes).

A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday: "We have not diplomatic relations nor official dealings with the People's Republic of Kampuchea." The envoy had been hoping to meet members of both side of the *Commons and officials from* leading aid organizations to brief them on the current Cambodian peace talks and the prospects for a provisional government headed by Prince Sihanouk.

The £86,000 camel

Muscat, Oman (AP) — A camel breeder has sold a champion camel to a United Arab Emirates racing enthusiast for a record 575,000 dirhams (£86,000), the *Oman Daily Observer* reports. The previous highest figure was 250,000 dirhams. The average price for racing camels ranges from 3,700 to 11,100 dirhams.

The breeder, Mr Saeed Malki, from a remote village near Ibri in northern *Oman, had turned the* female thoroughbred into an unbeaten champion on the racing tracks. The buyer's identity was not disclosed.

US rethink on military assignments in Lebanon

Kidnappers to 'try American spy'

From Juan Carlos Gumucio in Beirut and Christopher Thomas in Washington

The United States is urgently *examining its policy of allowing* members of the armed forces to serve in Lebanon after the kidnapping of Marine Lieutenant-Colonel William Higgins on Wednesday, the ninth American to go missing there.

A previously unknown group *calling itself* the Islamic Revolutionary Brigades yesterday said it was responsible for the abduction. A man telephoned an international news agency in West Beirut to says that Colonel Higgins "had joined the (other Western) hostages" and that he would be put on trial because he was a CIA spy.

It was impossible to determine the authenticity of the claim, which also suggested that Colonel Higgins had been *smuggled out of southern* Lebanon shortly after his abduction. The caller said that a *statement* and a picture of the hostage would be produced "soon".

A joint search in southern *Lebanon* by UN *peacekeeping* troops and the Shia Muslim Amal militia, who are combing hills and valleys east of Tyre with the help of UN *helicopters*, was hampered by rainstorms.

According to reports from Tyre, the search was concentrating in the narrow valley of Wadi Jilo, just south-east of Tyre, which falls within an area under the control of the *Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian* "party of god" which has become the prime suspect in the abduction.

President Reagan said the US was trying to find out where Colonel Higgins was to secure his release. But senior *officials made clear that* Mr Reagan was not talking about a military operation but referring to hopes that UN agencies could help.

The officer, known to friends as "Rich", had, according to Pentagon officials, "actively sought" his assignment to the post with the unarmed 76-member UN *observer group he heads*. He arrived in Lebanon in June on a one-year assignment.

His wife is also in the *military*. Marine Major Robin Higgins, a press officer at the Pentagon, was called out of a *routine staff meeting* by State Department officials and told *of her husband's disappearance*. Her daughter, Chrissy, aged 17, was driven to the Pentagon by a family friend so *that her mother could give her* the news.

The family lives in Woodbridge, Virginia, in the Washington suburbs. Colonel Higgins sought his assignment to Lebanon after serving several years in the Washington area. He joined the Marine Corps in 1967 and served in the infantry in Vietnam.

He was awarded the Defence Superior Service medal and the Bronze Star, and also holds the Meritorious Service medal and two Navy commendational medals. He has served in various command positions, and was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel in January 1983.

His father, William Higgins, died of heart failure in a *Louisville hospital yesterday*, a day after the abduction.

State Department and Pentagon spokesmen insisted that the kidnapping had not sparked active discussion about removing the remaining *15 US members of the UN* truce supervision organization, but other *officials* indicated that the policy was being reassessed.

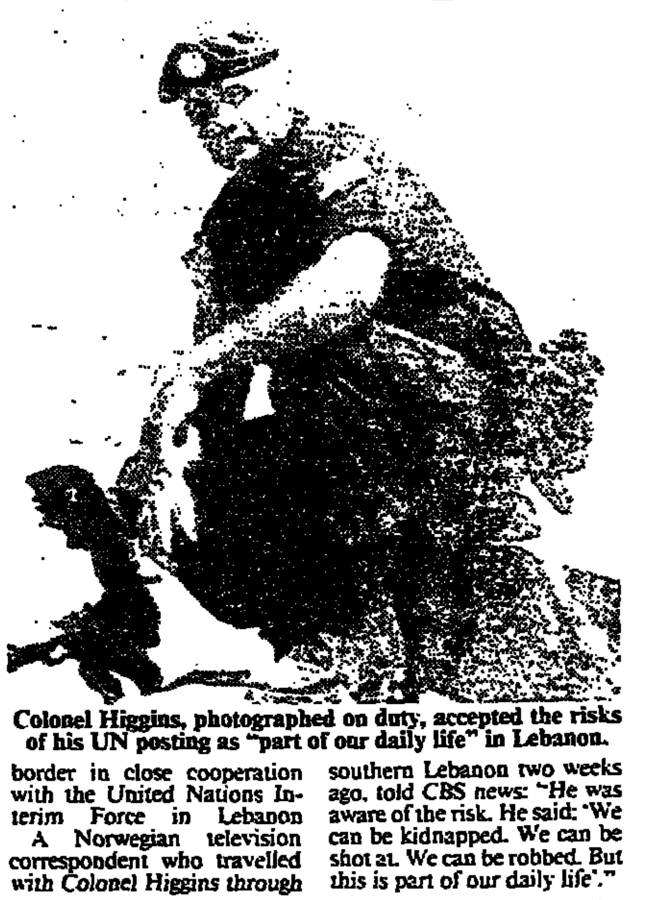
Mr Charles Redman, the State Department spokesman, said: "These people are not assigned as a national contingent. They are US officers assigned to *this United Nations* organization and, as such, they are under the authority and responsibility of *that organization*."

Thirty-six US *military* officers are assigned to UN observer groups throughout the *Middle East*, including the 16 in Lebanon. They are among 299 troops from 17 nations that participate in observer roles.

The State Department has recommended for the past several years that American civilians stay out of Lebanon. But the US has participated in the UN observer unit since 1948 and did not withdraw its members even after the 1983 bombing of the Beirut Marine barracks, *in which* 241 Marines and other US personnel died.

The observers' role is to *patrol the Lebanese-Israeli* border in close cooperation with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

A Norwegian television correspondent who travelled *with Colonel Higgins through* southern Lebanon two weeks ago, told *CBS news*: "He was aware of the risk. He said: 'We can be kidnapped. We can be shot at. We can be robbed. But this is part of our daily life'."



Colonel Higgins, photographed on duty, accepted the risks of his UN posting as "part of our daily life" in Lebanon.

Israeli rift on unrest widens

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

With only one violent incident reported on the West *Bank yesterday, the rift* widened inside the coalition Government over how to *negotiate a solution* to the Palestinian problem.

The Army's apparent increasingly firm grip on the unrest is matched by growing firmness among government 'hawks' who refuse to consider any plan involving exchanging *land for peace*.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud Prime Minister, told the board of governors of the *World Zionist Organization* in Jerusalem that Israel would not agree to an international peace conference or to shorten *the period of time* for autonomy and negotiation. Both are part of the plan being brought to Jerusalem next week by Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State.

"Any attempt to force the pace would be detrimental to the very essence of an *agreement*," he said. "We will explain our objections to an international conference to Mr Shultz and show that it would be counter-productive. It would allow the Soviet Union to play a role."

At the same time Mr *Shimon Peres, the Labour* Foreign Minister, was telling the American-Israeli Chamber of Commerce in Tel Aviv that he supported most of the elements in Mr Shultz's plan.

He said he was willing to exchange some of the territories for peace. Jerusalem *would not* be included. He said he would hand over all of Gaza because this was a demographic problem and not a geographical one.

If the *American initiative* failed, he said, this would leave the Arabs with no one to turn to but the Soviet Union.

Yesterday's violent incident occurred at Kabatia near Jenin, where troops used live ammunition to break up a demonstration. Three people *were wounded and three* others needed treatment for injuries received in beatings.

During the day it was announced that a Shin Bet counter-*intelligence* officer was to face criminal charges of negligence in the beating and killing of Awad Hamdan, an *Arab* from Tulkarm camp, nine months ago. Two other officers are to be charged with perjury.

While the official report *claims he died in hospital of* pneumonia, his family found his body had been severely beaten when they reclaimed it from the hospital where he was taken the day after being arrested at his home.

Kinnock fury at camp 'hell'

From Philip Webster, Gaza

Mr Neil Kinnock widened his criticism of Israel yesterday by *denouncing the living "hell"* imposed on the Palestinians in the occupied territories and the harsh policing methods employed by troops to contain the uprising.

The Labour leader's tour of the Middle East erupted into *fresh controversy as he* challenged the Israeli Army to prove that it had not shot people in the back or used explosive bullets.

As he visited *refugee camps* in the Gaza Strip, Mr Kinnock spoke of the "stark and appalling" difference between life there and the affluence so close in Israel. People were being effectively incarcerated in the areas, he said.

Last night he complained at a private meeting with Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Minister of Defence, about the policy of beatings and shootings used by the troops. His anger had *been heightened* by a visit to another hospital in Gaza town, where he saw another injured Palestinian apparently shot in the back and young men whose bodies were blackened from beatings.

The Israeli Army yesterday denied it had shot people in *the back or issued explosive* bullets. But the Government has not reacted in public to Mr *Kinnock's attacks* — though Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, is expected to retaliate when he sees the Labour *leader today*.

Mr Kinnock emerged from *Beach camp*, under curfew for 22½ hours daily since last Friday, to say: "The intensive military presence, the jeeps carrying six to eight soldiers, the foot patrols, the curfew itself, the way the streets are stripped of people... it is a vast slum... It is hell."

At the Baptist Hospital in Gaza, Mr Kinnock and his wife again visited injured Palestinians. The most harrowing sight was girl, aged five, named Yesmi. She had horrific scalds on her shoulders *and neck from two days* ago when, it was said, troops burst into her home and sprayed around boiling water which had been on a stove.

Early yesterday, Mr Kinnock met Mr Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister and Israeli Labour leader and an old friend. Mr Kinnock said afterwards they had agreed on a *need for an internationl peace* conference, "that the rule of one people over another people could not be permanent", *that the occupied territories* should be demilitarized, and that the state of Israel must have secure borders.

Emaciated terrorists hit French conscience

From Philip Jacobson Paris

The wretched spectacle of *gaunt, half-conscious* defendants being carried bodily into the dock for the latest series of Action Directe terrorism trials now threatens to backfire on the French Government.

With all four of the accused approaching the end of their physical resources, after 80 days of a hunger strike, the possibility of a death during the proceedings can no longer be excluded.

The court has alread witnessed the sight of Nathalie Ménigon, first of the accused to appear, stretched out on the *floor of* a waiting room with an emergency drip inserted into her emaciated arm. Regardless of their views on *Action* Directe's notably ruthless brand of urban terrorism, it seems likely that many French will find such distressing court scenes deeply distasteful.

Yet the Government of M Jacques Chirac appears determined to have Action Directe's leadership tried and, it hopes, jailed before the presidential election in April. Its evident conviction that there are important votes to be won on the law and order front perhaps explains the widely reported remarks of the Minister for Security, M Robert Pandraud. On Wednesday, when a seemingly comatose Ménigon was jailed for 12 years on a first series of charges, he told a convention in the National Assembly that nobody would prevent *Action Directe* members from continuing their protest. "Anyone has the right to go on a *slimming diet*."

The Justice Minister has also weighed in with an uncompromising response to the *complaints of Action Directe* prisoners about being held in continual isolation. "The *Government* will ensure that conditions for the detainees *conform to regulations*, but it will certainly not give way to what I consider blackmail," warned *M Albin Chalandon*. "They're trying to continue their strategy of terrorism within the jail... Think how many other prisoners, four or five to a cell, would like to swap places with them."

Yesterday afternoon Ménigon was taken back to the Paris Assize Court to face another charge of attempted murder, together with two male co-accused. *Lifted from* her wheelchair in a blanket by nurses, she seemed to be asleep, possibly unconscious. Before proceedings could begin, the doctor previously appointed by the magistrates *to decide whether she was fit* to participate asked to be relieved from duty in order to take over her treatment.

When the hearing got under way, the presiding magistrate *ordered a microphone to be* held to Ménigon's lips to catch anything that she may choose to say in her increasingly *faint* voice. A needle has been inserted in one of her arms to allow speedy connection to a *waiting drip* by the doctor sitting beside her in the dock.

●**MADRID**: An agreement will "very probably" be reached within one year between the Spanish Government and Eta to end the violence, a leading member of Popular Unity, the political wing of the Basque Separatist organisation, *claimed* yesterday (Richard Wigg writes).

Señor Inaki Esnaola, known as one of the proponents of dialogue between *Eta and the* Government, was making the first public suggestion of a timetable for the presently stalled contacts.

Armed French policemen escorting the ambulance bringing terrorist Nathalie Ménigon to court in central Paris yesterday.

Nathalie Ménigon: Now frail *after 80-day hunger strike.*

Gore performs his DavyCrockett act for Dixie

From Charles Bremner
Beaumont, Texas

Day One in the race for Super Tuesday, *and Senator* Al Gore swoops into this little east Texas town on board his little white Lear jet and comes *out* with *the quote* from Davy Crockett: "The people of Tennessee can go to Hell, I'm going to Texas."

The sheriff *beams at* his deputy and the small crowd at Harrison County airport cheer as the young senator warms up his Southern patois.

"Y'all know I'm a labour *man*," *he* reassures Mr Eddy Champ, a victim of the layoffs in the devastated local oil industry. No wonder the Washington-bred and Harvard-educated Mr Gore was lampooned as "bilingual" in a Doonesbury cartoon this week.

The battle for Dixie is on with a vengeance, and Mr Gore is throwing his all into the 20-day sprint against Mr Michael Dukakis, Mr Richard Gephardt and the Rev Jesse Jackson for the favour of Democrats in the 19 Southern and border *states* which vote on March 8. Super Tuesday will choose a third of the delegates to the national convention.

Mr Gore's campaign gained momentum yesterday when *The New Republic*, the 74-year-old chronicler of Democratic thought, endorsed *him as its choice* for presidential candidate. "We support him for the nomination ... against any likely or *imaginable* Republican opponent."

Referring to the New Hampshire primary the 39-year-old senator says: "You can throw those results *out of the window*. The main event starts now."

Mr Gore, self-assured and with the polished good looks of the yuppie era, *has challenged* the rules by boycotting Iowa and New Hampshire to hold his fire for his Southern home turf.

With no clear winners from the politicking up North, Mr Gore hopes that through a blanket campaign in the heavily Democratic South that he can set himself apart from the pack. The polls are confusing, but he is up with the other three.

"The others are all just peas *in a pod*," he repeats at each stop of his airborne jaunt around the rim of the Gulf of Mexico, *with two other Lear* jets of staff, consultants, secret servicemen and reporters in tow.

If looks count, Mr Gore is ahead with the women's vote. "What a hunk, wow," blurted one secretary at a factory in the Louisiana town of Shreveport as the boy-candidate swept through in his immaculate blue suit.

But Mr Gore's youth is also an obstacle. If nominated he would be *his party's youngest* candidate this century. He is the first post-war child to aim for the presidency. This may be the moment, he *hopes*, for *the country* to opt for the energy of youth, just as it chose the young John Kennedy after the elderly Dwight Eisenhower. He freely admits to having smoked marijuana. He volunteered for Vietnam *in 1969* and he worked as a reporter on a local newspaper before entering Congress in *1977*.

He was young enough *to sit* on the lap of the then Vice-President, Richard Nixon, in the 1950s, a privilege earned through his father's rank as a long-serving Tennessee senator.

Mr Gore was groomed for public office from childhood, *when he grew up on Embassy* Row in Washington. It is this elite background that he is trying to combat with his "down home" *language* and depiction of himself as a good old Tennessee farmer and Vietnam veteran.

Mr Gore and his blonde wife Tipper — famous *in her* own right as a crusader against pornography in pop songs — do have a farm in the Tennessee *mountains*.

Perhaps to compensate for his youth, Mr Gore often appears stiff and earnest, *something* his wife and advisors are trying to change.

Down South he hammers his conservative side — especially his belief in a tough stance abroad, and lays into the liberalism of his rivals. "Mike Dukakis hasn't had a single day of foreign policy experience. Do we want another President who don't know beans about foreign policy?" The Texans love *that* line.

He says Mr Gephardt had discredited himself with his metamorphosis from Washington insider to peoples' *tribune* in Iowa.

Then Mr Gore crosses the line that the white contenders have so far shied from and attacks Mr Jackson. "He hasn't had a single day in government of any kind. Do we want someone who has to learn on the job?"

But he throws a ritual sop to the politician whose race has guaranteed him gentle treatment from the others. "But God bless him for some of the things he's been saying."

Mr Jackson is the joker in the pack of Super Tuesday. He stands to pick up most of the black vote and could win in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana.

As a Southerner with widespread support from black leaders, Mr Gore is hoping *that he could eventually forge* an alliance with the Jackson block of delegates at the Democratic convention.

Some local Democrats are *worried that their idea of* combining the big Southern primaries on one day may backfire.

They devised Super Tuesday to raise the Southern say in the selection of a nominee. But another change in the rules — *half* the states allow voters to cast ballots in whatever party's primary they choose — may mean a big defection of evangelicals to the Rev Pat Robertson of the Republicans.

Babbitt takes his exit with dignity

Washington — **With the grace, good humour and dignity that marked his long-shot presidential campaign, Mr Bruce Babbitt, the former Governor of *Arizona*, yesterday withdrew from the Democratic race, but said the cause of candour in politics would continue (Michael Binyon writes).**

***Referring to the many occasions* people left their seats to "stand up" for truth-telling, he said: "I stood up for what I believed in, and they stood up for me. That's what this year has been about. Because a campaign is more than a candidate and a cause is more than a campaign. This *candidate* is withdrawing; this campaign is closing down. But the cause we've stood for has just *begun*."**

***Mr Babbitt*, who finished sixth with only 5 per cent of the votes in New Hampshire and fifth in Iowa with only 9 per cent, is the first Democratic casualty. He refused yesterday to endorse *any other candidate*, saying that he would wait until after the "Super Tuesday" primaries on March 8. The Rev Jesse Jackson has already spoken to him in the hope of bringing Mr Babbitt's supporters over to his campaign.**

Producer's battle to film Pu Yi

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

The Last Emperor, the film about Pu Yi, the last imperial *ruler of China, which this* week picked up nine Oscar nominations and has been chosen by the Prince's Trust *for Thursday's royal premiere*, was turned down by every leading Hollywood studio, says the picture's London-based *producer*, Jeremy Thomas.

Thomas, the low-key producer of the Bernardo Bertolucci film that stars John Lone *as the Emperor* and Peter O'Toole as his English tutor, yesterday said that the leading studios liked the story, "but *they all said it didn't* have any big stars in it and they couldn't see us making a picture of such epic proportions for only $25 million (£14 million)."

As a result, Thomas spent *four years* getting the picture made — and that included scraping together the $25 million through a consortium of five European banks headed by Hill Samuel and Company.

Thomas is delighted with the nominations and reports that the picture has taken more than $80 million in the US. *Columbia Pictures* now plans to open the film in more US cinemas this week.

Thomas said that after the film was completed it was sold *in the US to Hemdale Film* for $8 million. The company headed by another Englishman, John Daly, then got *David Puttnam*, who at the time was running Columbia Pictures, to distribute it in North America.

For Thomas, however, the struggle to get the film made was a constant uphill battle.

He said that because there was no big studio backing, "on more than one occasion I woke up sweating at the *thought that so much money* was riding on the picture.

"We were the first company *to shoot a film of this size* in China, shooting in in the Forbidden City in Peking in the summer of 1986 using *19,000* extras for more than six months. And we had it all riding on a simple two-and-a-half page contract that reads 'in the spirit of friendship and collaboration'.

"The *nominations* are an affirmation that intelligent and epic cinema is wanted and needed by audiences and a lot *of people* in America have gone to see it because of that," he said.

Soviet elite lines up in style to sidestep ban on luxury

From Christopher Walker
Moscow

Not even the residents of Moscow, the world capital of queues, have seen anything like the daily scenes on Astrakhan Street, where more than 30,000 citizens are scrambling to buy imported electrical goods before the special-coupon *Beriozhka* shop there closes by government decree on July 1.

In order to regulate what has become the ultimate Soviet queue — and as damning an indictment of the system as could be imagined — every hundredth person on the waiting list has been put in charge of his or her group of 100, who have to report two or three times every 24 hours to hold their place in the line.

As sub-zero winds yesterday blew gusts of snow from surrounding rooftops, the street — now closed at either end by militiamen with crush barriers — presented a bizarre sight. At various points, people holding up cardboard placards with numbers on were gathered as rollcalls were held and latecomers tried to secure a position.

The would-be shoppers are all possessors of the prized "B" coupons, issued to Soviet citizens who work abroad, which give them access to the privileged shops — a system greatly resented by ordinary citizens unable to buy the luxury goods. In recent years, the coupons have been heavily traded on the black market, where they now command five times their face value.

The "Astrakhan queue" has begun in the last few days to attract Soviet swindlers of every variety (as well as prostitutes) — black marketeers who are selling vodka at 20 roubles (£20) a bottle, and enterprising businessmen purveying fast food to those who may have to wait up to 20 days until they can enter the store.

Local car-owners are also getting in the act, charging 20 roubles and more for an overnight seat in their heated vehicles.

During a brief visit, I was twice approached by shady dealers offering me black-market rates for coupons I did not possess. Tempers were frayed and one man trying to secure re-entry with a faulty Japanese video recorder was literally beaten back by the self-appointed volunteers who were in charge of his queue.

The number plates on the cars jamming the surrounding streets reavaled that citizens had come from all parts of the Soviet Union for what many fear is their last opportunity to buy a foreign television or tape recorder. Some unseasonal tans also confirmed reports that others have returned home prematurely from abroad to secure their place in the queue.

The daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets* reported: "The only ones who can get into the store without waiting in line are people with Hero of the Soviet Union awards. Those who did their internationalist duty in Afghanistan are allowed into the TV section one at a time after every twentieth person, and into the tape recorder section after every 10th person."

The newspaper's reporter, Mr Emin Bazinyan, added: "Some people spend the night in their heated cars, listening to music and drinking coffee. Others, wearing felt boots and wrapped up in blankets, sleep in the entrances of nearby apartment houses where they eat breakfast, lunch and sometimes do things one should not do in public. I saw myself how a janitor, his nose puckered up in disgust, was carrying a full bucket out of one entrance."

The newspaper described the iron discipline which predominates in the queue. "Some individuals may have miraculously slipped through the line and into the store. They might even make their purchase and get to the exit with it, but the minute they walk out their luck changes.

"The very same line that was deceived confiscates their purchase, gives the agile customer B-coupons in return and sends him packing, empty-handed, to peals of laughter."

Because of the sudden rise in demand for televisions and other foreign electrical equipment, prices in Moscow's secondhand stores and on the thriving black market have been pushed up to new limits. A Panasonic TV selling for the equivalent of £1,350 in the Astrakhan Street *Beriozhkza* now sells outside for the equivalent of £4,000.

The official media have claimed wide support from their postbags for the order to shut this and other B-coupon shops, with most citizens glad to see the end of a system that was a magnet for corruption and penalized the majority who work within the country.

"Why should they have the right to buy foreign goods? I am not a bit sorry for them," said a middle-aged Muscovite who observed yesterday's shivering and ill-tempered queue.

Kremlin warning to Nato

Gorbachov attacks Europeans on plan to update deterrent

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov yesterday launched a strong attack on what he alleged were stepped-up militaristic activities by Nato and called for an intensification of Soviet foreign policy propaganda.

In the foreign policy section of a marathon address to the Communist Party's Central Committee, the Soviet leader said the recent signing of the INF pact was no cause for complacency.

"The militaristic activities in the European part of Nato have been noticeably invigorated. They are in a hurry to arrange for 'compensation' for the missiles to be eliminated under the treaty," he claimed. "They are planning a modernization and a build-up of 'other' types of nuclear weapons, especially at sea and in the air, cynically claiming that the latter are not covered by the treaty."

Mr Gorbachov went on to direct his anger against the British and French independent nuclear deterrents and to make what were seen by diplomats as a series of thinly veiled criticisms of recent remarks by Mrs Thatcher.

Members of the Central Committee were told that statements of approval for the INF treaty had been accompanied by declarations that Britain and France intended to build up their nuclear weapons. "It is precisely after the signing of the treaty that the Nato states demonstrate enhanced activity in the field of bilateral and multilateral military integration," he said.

He added that a "consolidation of reactionary, extreme anti-Soviet forces" was under way in the wake of the signing of the treaty last December. In a reference to West European leaders, including Mrs Thatcher, Mr Gorbachov complained: "Positive pronouncements by high-ranking figures about our *perestroika* again alternate with talk about communist expansion' and warnings that one should not forget 'who one is dealing with,' and that since the present Soviet leadership is not going to change its system, its 'diplomacy of smiles' arouses suspicion."

The Soviet leader, again without naming names, went on to accuse Western radio stations of spreading "provocative inventions" about a leadership struggle in the Kremlin and the emergence of a domestic opposition in the Soviet Union to *perestroika* and the Kremlin's new foreign policy.

"They wish to sow uncertainty, disbelief in the possibility of achieving the aims set by the party. These centres of anti-socialist provocation are engaged in such activities not only towards the Soviet Union," he added, alleging that similar Western "subversive activities were being aimed at the reform programmes under way in other Soviet bloc states.

Up to 40 Lithuanians were arrested by police during demonstrations marking the 70th anniversary of the Baltic state's independence declaration, according to Soviet and dissident reports yesterday. (Nicholas Beeston writes).

The republic's Interior Minister said 32 people were held and later released for "anti-social and hooligan actions". The Lithuanian Information Centre in New York said 40 people were arrested in Kaunas when thousands of Lithuanians attended a nationalist church service.

The speech was much harsher in tone and less conciliatory to the West than many delivered by Mr Gorbachov in recent months. Analysts here saw it as signalling a hardening of the Kremlin line in the run-up to the 1988 Moscow superpower summit.

Signs of this harder attitude were apparent when Mr Gorbachov met Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, on Tuesday and delivered a number of criticisms of the West in a conversation described by one British official as "having no holds barred."

Yesterday the Soviet leader called on the Communist Party to step up the work of its international ideological and propaganda departments in order to frustrate those in the West whom he labelled as "reactionaries". These people were trying "to stop the disarmament train, which is picking up speed."

Explaining the Soviet Union's "new thinking" on relations with the West, Mr Gorbachov told the meeting: "Establishing normal business relations with the states of the opposing system shakes, in addition to other things, anti-Sovietism and, therefore, anti-communism, thus weakening the reactionaries' pressure on democratic gains and aspirations."

Referring to Afghanistan, Mr Gorbachov traced the Kremlin's newly declared determination to withdraw its troops back to a Politburo study of the situtation made a month after he came to power in March, 1985. It had then "made an exacting, straightforward analysis of the situation and already then started looking for a way out of it."

He said that the opportunity had only appeared late in 1986, when President Najibullah had come to the forefront of the political stage in Kabul at the head of what he described as truly national forces.

Referring to his statement of February 8 which named May 15 as the putative date for the pull-out, Mr Gorbachov said that it confronted "with new realities those who further intend to exploit the Afghan problem to their selfish ends."

Cairo indicts son of Nasser

airo (AP) — The eldest son nd a nephew of the late resident Nasser are among 0 people indicted in connec- ion with four attacks on US nd Israeli diplomats in Cairo, 1r Mohammed el-Guindi, gypt's Prosecutor-General, nnounced yesterday.

Mr el-Guindi said he was eking death penalties for 11 efendants, including Mr haled Abdel Nasser, the ldest son of the late President. He said he wants prison ntences up to life for the ther nine, among them asser's nephew, Dr Gamal hawky Abdel Nasser.

Both men live outside gypt. Family members said Ir Khaled Nasser lives with is wife and children in Yugo- avia and Dr Gamal Nasser ves in London.

The indictment accused the rst 11 defendants of forming group called Egypt's Revolu- on to assassinate foreign plomats, aiming to disrupt lations between Egypt and veral countries and to de- abilize security in Egypt.

The indictment also charged the 11 with murder and attempted murder in the attacks, which occurred once a year from 1984 until 1987. Two Israelis died and six Israelis and two Americans were wounded in the attacks, alleged to have been carried out by gunmen in cars.

The nine defendants for whom lesser penalties are being asked were accused of complicity in the alleged conspiracies.

The defendants also include two former military officers and a former corporal.

Mr Khaled Nasser: Believed to be living in Yugoslavia.

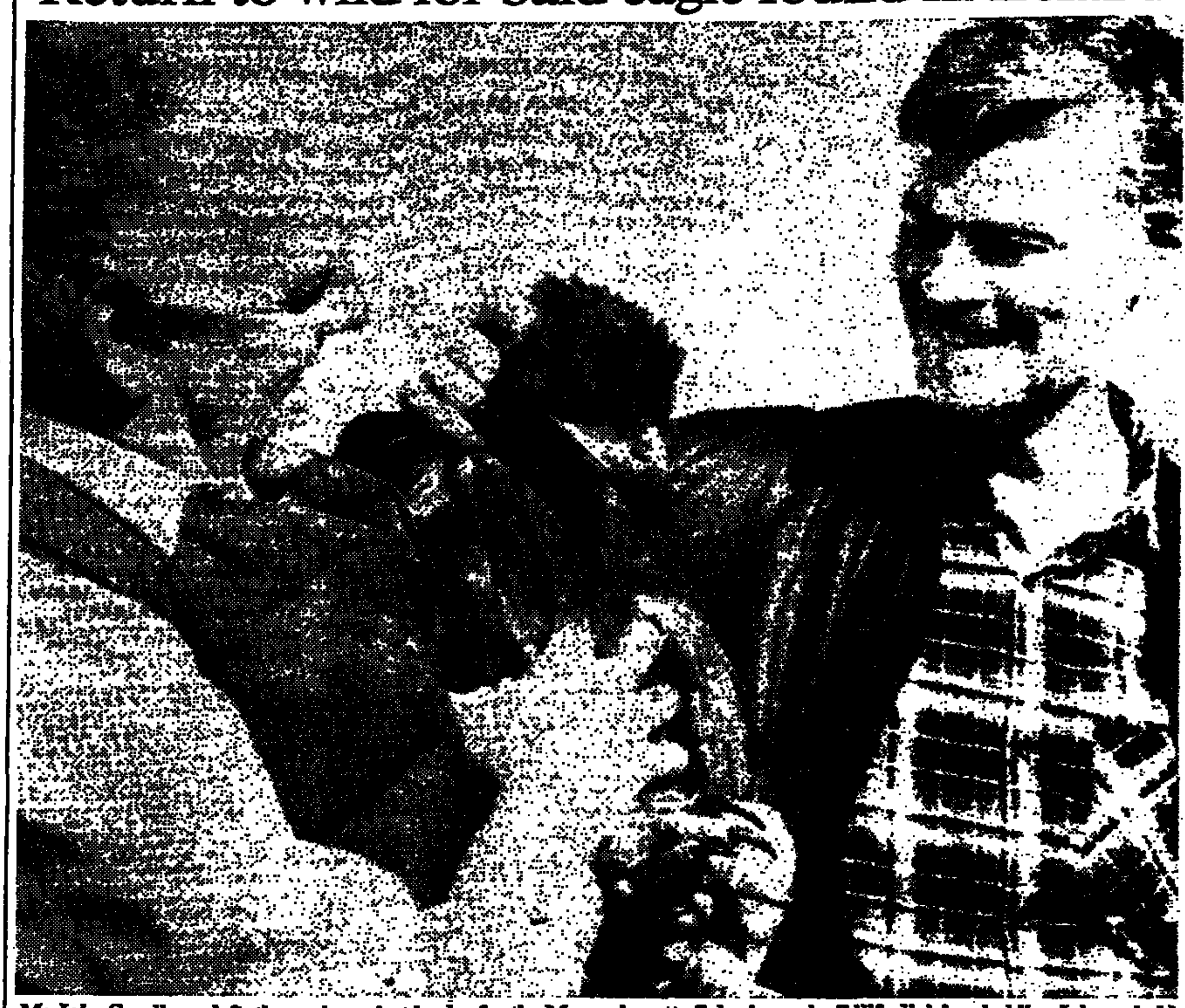
Of those facing the death penalty, Mr Khaled Nasser is the only one at large except for one other man, an air force officer, who was arrested but then ordered released by the courts, Mr el-Guindi said. All of the other nine defendants, except Dr Gamal Nasser, were also arrested and then released. Mr el-Guindi said they would be arrested again.

The financing came from abroad but its origin was not yet known, he added.

The indictment alleged that Mr Khaled Nasser, aged 38, formed Egypt's Revolution with Mr Mahmoud Nour el-Din el-Sayed Ali Suliman, aged 47, a former administrative employee at the Egyptian Embassy in London and Mr Ahmed Essam el-Din el-Sayed Ali Suliman.

Mr El-Guindi said Interpol would be asked to help in bringing Mr Khaled Nasser back to Egypt. Neither Yugoslavia nor Britain has an extradition treaty with Egypt.

Return to wild for bald eagle found in Ireland



Mr John Swedberg, left, the eagle project leader for the Massachusetts fisheries and wildlife division, holding Iolar, a bald eagle, before release into the wild at Quabbin Reservoir, 75 miles west of Boston. The bird was flown to the US on an Aer Lingus plane last December after it had been found near Killarney, Ireland, during November by Mr Pat O'Connell, right.

Five held for Thai tour deaths

Bangkok (AFP) — Police in northern Thailand said yesterday they had arrested five hill tribesmen for the murder last week of a British tourist and the captain of a riverboat.

They said the men shot dead Mrs Jill Davis, aged 59, of Kent, and the captain after he ignored their demand to steer the boat ashore. Two other Britons, Mrs Sylvia Crozier, 48, of Sunderland, and Mrs Hazel Sheldon, 58, of Somerset, are recovering from gunshot wounds.

Libel win

Georgetown (Reuter) — The Guyana Court of Appeal ordered the *Catholic Standard* and its editor to pay £6,000 to President Hoyte for two libellous articles, one of which accused his party of fraudulently obtaining a UN grant.

Digging in

Sydney — Work will begin next week on a £160 million tunnel to ease traffic congestion on the "Old Coathanger", the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Cruelty law

Madrid — Cruelty to animals will now bring fines reaching a maximum of £12,500 under a law passed by the regional Parliament of Catalonia.

Death appeal

Salonika (AP) — A Briton, Philip Portington, aged 37, has appealed against a death sentence for the 1985 murder of a British tourist at a campsite in northern Greece.

Clean Seine

Paris (Reuter) — Thousands of fish have been put into the Seine, once a thick flow of poisonous slime and debris, to mark its return to cleanliness.

The 'Ivan the Terrible' case

Identity evidence arrives too late as trial ends in uproar

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The trial of John Demjanjuk, the alleged "Ivan the Terrible" of the Treblinka death camp, ended in uproar yesterday as his family walked out of court accusing prosecution lawyers of lying.

Minutes before the end of the year-long trial Mr Yoram Sheftel, the senior defence counsel, revealed that he had obtained only three weeks' earlier a sworn statement by a former death camp guard saying that Mr Denjanjuk had never been in Treblinka.

The evidence arrived too late for submission and was not in an acceptable form for the court, but the defence still hopes to prove conclusively that the entire case is nothing but a Soviet plot to discredit the Ukrainian people.

The final session was interrupted twice — first by a Holocaust survivor who said his family died in Treblinka, and then by the three members of Mr Demjanjuk's family present, who walked out shouting "liars" at the prosecution lawyers.

The day began with an apology from Mr Paul Chumak, QC, the Canadian defence lawyer who stunned the court on Wednesday by comparing the case to the Dreyfus affair.

In withdrawing this "unhesitatingly", he said he had meant only to make a comparison between French anti-Semitism, which led to the conviction of Dreyfus, and Soviet "anti-Ukrainianism", which had created a plot designed to convict the defendant.

The plot had not succeeded, he said, and there was reasonable doubt that the defendant was the mass executioner "Ivan the Terrible".

"The verdict must be founded on the evidence and must stand the test of time, so that in five, 10 or 50 years it shall be said 'Justice was done in Jerusalem. Demjanjuk was acquitted according to the law'."

As the court was about to start a brief recess, Mr Mordechai Fuchs, a Holocaust survivor who has often been in the audience during the trial, produced a framed photograph of his family taken 60 years ago in Warsaw. All of them died in Treblinka: he escaped by jumping from the train carrying him to the death camp.

"I was among the dead, but I am here in court today," he shouted. "The Ukrainians took every man, woman and child and murdered them in cold blood. I want everyone to know what the Ukrainians did. I am not able to keep quiet any longer."

Mr John Gill, the third defence counsel, went painstakingly through evidence which questioned the authenticity of the key prosecution exhibit, a death camp guard's SS identity card in the name of Ivan Demjanjuk. Even the ink colours, he suggested, proved the card was a forgery.

"We have in fact destroyed the case in so many ways that it is impossible for them to reconstruct it at this juncture," he said. "We don't have the burden of proof. We just have the burden of showing that the prosecution has not proved its case."

The court refused Mr Demjanjuk permission to speak at the end. Throughout the hearing, he listened in his interpreter's headset, making copious notes. His family was much more agitated.

When Mr Michael Shaked, for the prosecution, refuted defence accusations that Israel had not co-operated in gathering the necessary evidence, the family walked out.

"You are lying," the defendant's son, John, shouted, and his sister and mother followed him out of the court, shouting.

They did not hear Mr Sheftel complain that it had not been possible until three weeks before to obtain from the American Office of Special Investigations a statement by a death camp guard, called Danil Chenko, who claimed to have served at Sobibor camp with the defendant when he was supposed to have been the executioner at Treblinka.

Mr Sheftel said the prosecution could have obtained the document much earlier, but had failed to do so because it did not tally with their case. He refused to withdraw his remarks even when Judge Dov Levin urged him "not to go away with all this bitterness".

The defendant's son was very bitter. "It was a fitting end to the prosecution that they should lie to the end," he said afterwards.

He said the defence would produce many witnesses to prove his father was neither in Sobibor nor Treblinka. "The rest of the world is going to be the judge of what is happening in Jerusalem," he said. "The case isn't going to end when the judges reach their verdict. It is going to continue until we say it is over."

The judges hope to reach a verdict within six weeks.

Hunt in hills for Basque diehard

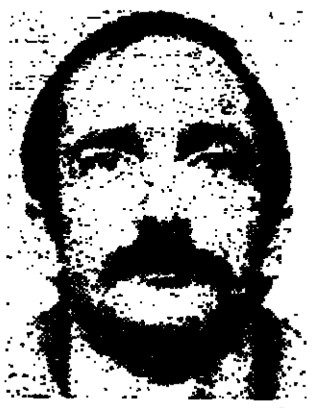
From Philip Jacobson
St Etienne-de-Baigorry

As one of the biggest manhunts mounted in the French Basque region closes in on Philippe Bidart, the people of this little mountain village await the worst. Although Bidart is accused of killing four French policemen since he went on the run in 1982, he remains an almost mythical figure in the community where he was born and bred.

Bidart, aged 35, a former theology student and founder of the "Iparretarrak" movement to serve the cause of Basque separatism on the French side of the border, is now practically the only survivor of his original group still at large. In the past 18 months he has seen several close comrades buried and many others, including his two brothers, brought before the courts.

Yet Iparretarrak — it means "Those of the North" in the Basque tongue spoken almost everywhere in this region — was never conceived as the French equivalent of Eta, the much larger and more cohesive Basque separatist organization fighting Spanish rule. Even local police officials concede that Bidart and his followers did not set out to kill but were caught up in a spiral of violence which gradually engulfed them.

The videotape of a bank robbery in 1981 first put Philippe Bidart on the wanted list. Then he was linked to bomb attacks on public buildings in the Basque country. Early in 1982, in the course of what appears to have been a bungled kidnap attempt, two members of the CRS paramilitary force were shot dead by a group led by Bidart, who was subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment *in absentia*.



Bidart: An almost mythical figure to French Basques.

There was no going back after that. Bidart's photograph was displayed in every French police station. A year later, surprised in the act of collecting a cache of stolen weapons, he shot his way out, killing one gendarme and severely wounding another.

Although these bloody events undoubtedly undermined Iparretarrak's support in the French Basque heartland, Bidart was still seen by many as a patriot fighting for a just cause. The daring raid he led to free two followers from the top security prison at Pau at the end of 1986 did nothing to harm that image.

Within a few months, however, Bidart has killed again, the victim a gendarme manning a routine security check near a popular tourist beach in the Landes region. That murder seems to have marked the final turning point for Iparretarrak. With Eta, the "big brothers", putting out peace feelers to the Spanish Government, the group has been effectively marginalized.

Today, even diehard French Basque nationalists accept that the movement is on its last legs. In the past Bidart could visit St Etienne-de-Baigorry quite openly, sometimes attending funerals of militants.

"It's a bit like Corsica around here," observed one villager who grew up with Bidart. Whatever their views, nobody ever talked to the police.

But by driving Bidart ever deeper into the Pyrenees, the authorities clearly hope to cut him off altogether from his last source of support.

"Of course, he knows this terrain like the back of his hand," said a senior police officer with a wave at the soaring mountains. "But nobody can run for ever up there, and we are in no hurry."

Mission to uncover Waldheim name becomes costly paper chase

By Robert Fisk

e international paper chase for oof of Dr Kurt Waldheim's mplicity in Second World War rocities is turning into a costly oduction as dozens of historians, urnalists, and television research- s, scour through tens of thousands wartime documents in archives at now embrace Rome and Athens well as Belgrade, Berlin, London d Washington.

At least two British television npanies are employing full-time earchers to read the incomplete t voluminous files of the Italian usteria" division which — cording to American investi- tors — liaised over the deporta- n of more than 400 Yugoslav lians in May, 1942, with the rman military office in which utenant Waldheim then worked.

But neither in the military archives in Rome nor in the more untidy files of the Greek Government have scholars or journalists yet unearthed the Austrian President's name, nor even the familiar handwritten letter "W" with which he often signed his intelligence reports.

Mr Jonathon Steinberg, who read through the "Pusteria" war diaries for his own research on Italian military assistance to Jews during the Occupation, says that he did not find a single reference to Dr Waldheim's name in the records. "There was no 'smoking gun' there," he said.

American officials from the Office of Special Investigations in Washington have drawn much the same conclusion and regard the best proof against Dr Waldheim as being the "guilt by association" which is evident from captured German documents. The latest of these to be unearthed from the National Archives in Washington specifically relate to liaison with the Italian unit but, once again, Dr Waldheim's name does not appear in the papers.

Not only are there tons of wartime documents in the European archives which are still unsorted — particularly in Yugoslavia and Greece — but those wartime records which might prove most incriminating were drawn up by army officers who by mid-1943 were in retreat.

The Italian Fascist regime, for example, was breaking apart by the end of 1942 and, as one scholar said: "The Italians scarcely had enough petrol to drive their occupation troops out of Yugoslavia, let alone take their files with them."

The Germans left some of their records behind when they retreated out of Bosnia and then Zagreb in 1945. The documents they took with them either ended up in the post-war bunkers of the Berlin Document Centre — from which 80,000 papers have recently disappeared — or were destroyed in the army's humiliating retreat into what is now Austria.

The passage of time has not served historians well. Wehrmacht documents on the Yugoslav campaign which survived the war were sometimes photographed and then photocopied and re-photocopied so many times that, when the original papers were lost, they were almost impossible to read. A copy of one German paper apparently bearing Dr Waldheim's "W" initial and compiled in the spring of 1942 was shown to me by a Jewish researcher in Paris, who said: "But look at the handwriting. Can anyone really say that this is Waldheim's? His actual name does not even appear on the typed document."

Further confusion has been sewn among researchers by apparent discrepancies in the original dossier against Dr Waldheim compiled by the World Jewish Congress in New York. Most of their references to the Austrian President are undoubtedly accurate. But one quoted report referring to Dr Waldheim then refers to a document which, when it was printed in English for the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal, appears to carry the name "Weisheim". Yet there are few doubts that the original War Crimes Commission made mistakes in transcribing German names.

The one archive to which neither US investigators nor Western journalists have yet gained access — which may well contain documentary evidence of Dr Waldheim's activity in the Balkans — is in the Albanian capital of Tirana.

Those scholars who have laboriously read through the archives of the Yugoslav Government report that while some of the files are in disorder, there is remarkably little evidence of any official "weeding". Some documents relating to the Croatian Ustasha militia, which worked with the Kampfgruppe West Bosnien in which Dr Waldheim served, are incomplete in the archives at Bania Luka in Yugoslavia but the corresponding files, which complete the original numbered series, can be found in the archives of the Military History Institute in Belgrade.

No one on the Waldheim trail, however, has yet succeeded in gaining access to the archives of the Interior Ministries of those Western countries which were occupied by the Germans. This includes the Yugoslav Ministry of Interior where, so some believe, wartime documents were forged.

هكذا من الاصل

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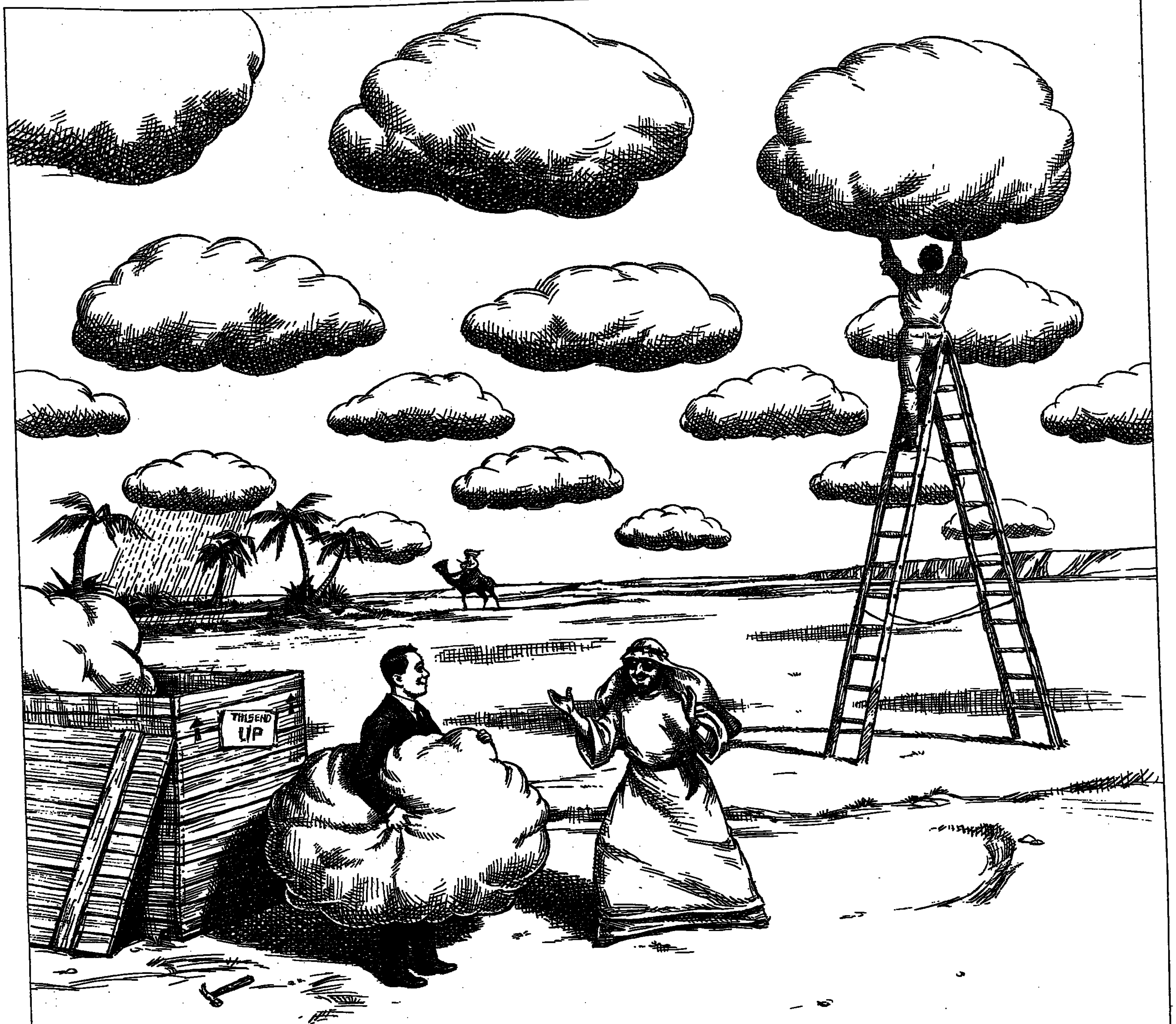

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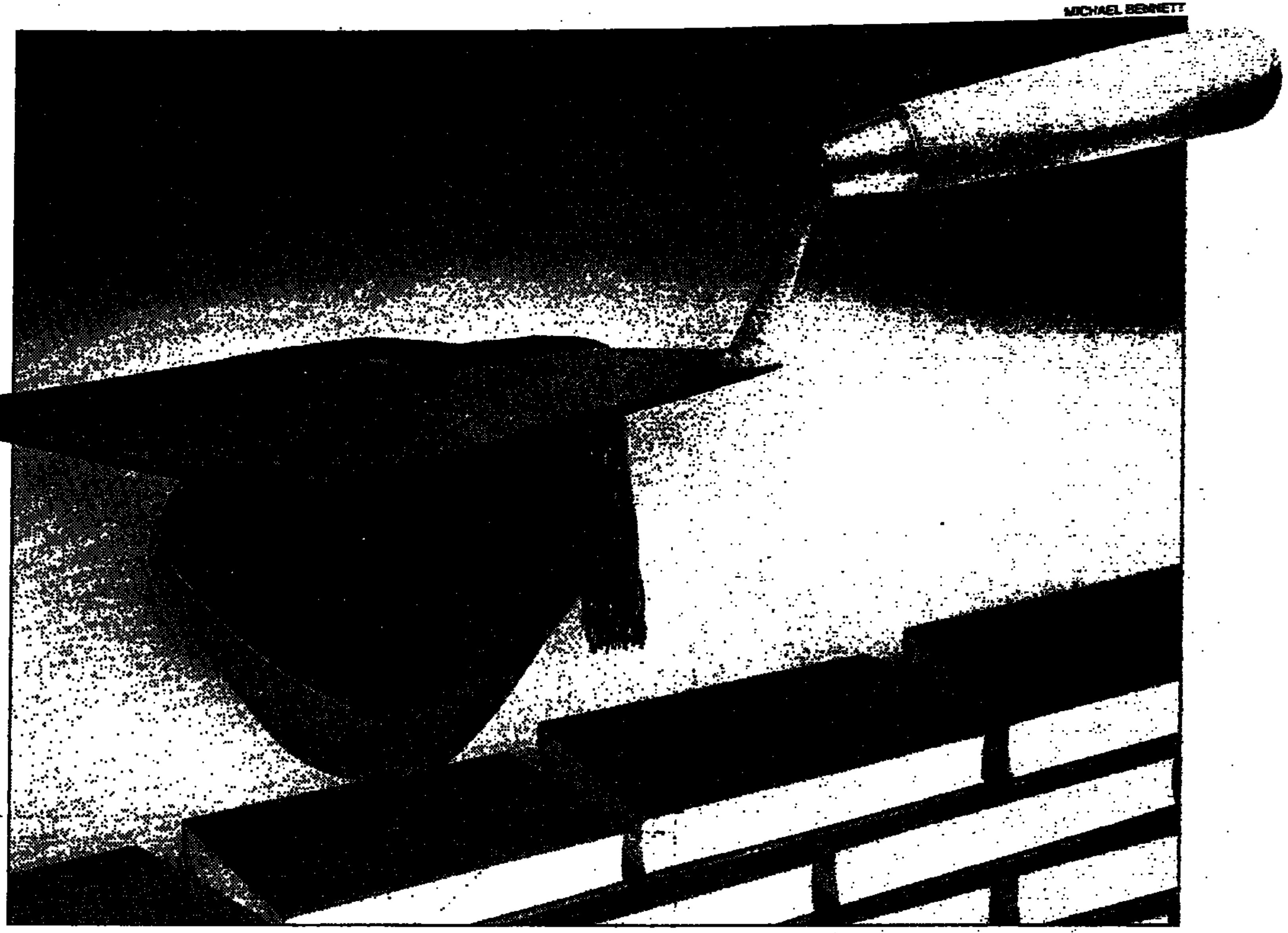
Oh my Bunter of long ago

LESSONS FOR LIFE

The reading bug is the greatest gift you can give your children, opening as it does the door to the delights and wisdom of the centuries. *The Times* asked a panel of experts to compile a list of the books every child should read and **Philip Howard** casts an eye over their choice, remembering his own favourites



MICHAEL BENNETT

Show me what a child reads, and I will tell you what she or he is going to grow up as. Of course, this is not a wholly accurate prediction. But it has as much truth in it as greedy-gutsy Brillat-Savarin saying, "Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are." and Lenin, Jesuits, and other zealots saying, "Give us a child for eight years and it will be a Bolshevist (Roman Catholic) for ever."

Men and women have become great while being illiterate, and successful without spending much at the booksellers. Socrates and J. Christ are unfair examples, because they lived in a generally preliterate age. But Edison and Henry Ford, Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher have done all right without being in the least bookish. Wittgenstein's only reading outside philosophy was trashy American thud-and-blunder thrillers. Nevertheless, most of the wisdom and knowledge in the world is contained in books.

In one life there is not time to read even one hundred-thousandth of the books published. It makes a great difference to the development and success (and happiness) of a child which books in the boundless jungles of print he or she reads. The recommended book list compiled by *The Times* panel seems to me judicious and imaginative, as we should expect from such a noble team of the bookish and clever who are lucky enough to spend their lives with the young. Some of them I have not read. I must get *Stig of the Dump* at once, if only for its title.

It seems to me inconceivable that the Bible and Shakespeare do not appear on our lists, but perhaps they were taken as read.

The Rev H.M.S. Taylor drilled me as a very small boy into familiarity with the bloodier parts of the Old Testament, with particular emphasis on what were then called the Minor Prophets. At Private Business, M'Tutor Francis Crusoe had his study full of boys aged between 12 and 16 reading Shakespeare. I shall never get a chance to play Desdemona again, but I am glad to have had the opportunity.

> *They sing telly jingles instead of nursery rhymes. I feel chilly and grown old*

The list seems to me short of humour: my brother remembers my keeping him awake and laughing myself to sleep over the Mulliner stories of Wodehouse.

Any list is going to be deficient. That is what making a selection means. But gosh, no *Tanglewood Tales*, no Kingsley's *The Heroes*, no *Tales from Shakespear* by Charles and Mary Lamb, no Bullfinch's *Myths of Greece and Rome*. Where do our young get their ancestral stories from? Wot no Hans Andersen or Brothers Grimm? They sing telly jingles instead of nursery rhymes. I feel chilly and grown old.

The books that you read for pleasure, hating to put down for meals, rushing to pick up afterwards, are the ones that stay with you. The first thing that I remember reading was a leader in the *Daily Express*. I had demonstrated to my father that I could read, and he thought I might be cheating by having learnt the kiddies' book by heart, so he tested me with the *Express*. But I soon moved on to more intelligent reading, such as Beatrix Potter.

In those days, Best Beloved, you either read *Just William* or *Swallows and Amazons*, who were considered nicer. Some of us liked both, but if it came to the barricades we would always have ended up on William's side.

We were fed with stories about boarding school, such as *The Fifth Form at St Dominic's*, to indoctrinate us that it was natural and fun to be banished from home. I always preferred Angela Brazil; and when I was first sent away at a very early age to board at Culford I ran away in the bus with the day-girls, causing the whole school to spend the evening searching the grounds, and some unpopularity when I was dragged back.

I cannot imagine being homesick again and not having *Bevis, the Story of a Boy* to read as a talisman. But our team are spot on with *The Hound of the Baskervilles* as a sovereign remedy for homesickness. I am sorry there are no *Malheurs de Sophie*.

Do you remember the endless boredom of wet afternoons, when the grown-ups were busy, and there was no television? We had to read to survive, not just "good" books, but Bunter, and Arthur Mee's *Children's Encyclopaedia*, and even *Great Trials of the Twentieth Century* if nobody was looking.

Life is OK; but give me a good book every time. The reading bug is the best thing you can give your children, not because it will help them pass exams, and make them successful, though it may, but because it is one of the great consolations and pleasures of living.

It opens the door to the delights and wisdom of the centuries. *The Times* book list is an admirable guide, not a map, to that magic garden with many lawns, and flowerbeds, and follies, and greenhouses.

THE TIMES 50: BOOKS CHILDREN SHOULD READ

"Barchester Towers! Dotheboys Hall! It just confirms my general view: people don't read!". Lord Beloff's cry of distress on hearing how poorly our sixth-form guinea-pigs had fared on the literary questions in *The Times 100* test which we published on Tuesday, would be echoed by many observers of education. Only 14 per cent and 4 per cent respectively recognized allusions to even television-serialized Great Victorians like these.

The test suggested that today's students may be relatively well up in sciences, but it bore out the concern of those who fear that the art of strenuous reading is well on the way to extinction.

So what should children be reading today, and what do they enjoy reading? We approached 12 experts in children's literature, and asked them to help us draw up a recommended list of books for children from nursery to sixth form. But we found them full of healthy misgivings about the whole idea. Unanimously they agreed that any mandatory check list was anathema.

"It would be a thousand pities if any list were taken as a blueprint of what every child should read at whatever age," the critic Elaine Moss said. "Reading should be a pleasure. All children vary and the sex of the reader, especially between 10 and 13, makes an enormous difference."

Martin Spilberg, another of our panellists and head of a boys' preparatory school, took a similar view. "It has always been one of my beliefs that it is better for boys to read anything rather than nothing. For the reluctant reader, comics, journals, *The Guinness Book of Records*: anything so long as he keeps reading."

But then, as Bryan Alderson, children's books reviewer for *The Times*, pointed out: "Nine out of 10 new books are ephemeral, and parents need better advice." So, with provisos, provisos, our 12 experts consented to nominate six or more books for each of three age-groups: pre-school and infants (3-7 years); junior school (7-11) and senior (12-18). Our final list of 50 was then drawn up from those books which were mentioned by at least a quarter of the panel.

It was generally agreed that the age at which children began to read varied so greatly that it was necessary to include on the list for the youngest group books which could be read aloud, as well as ones children could read themselves.

The distilled list of 50 books seemed a reasonably fair one to Professor Arthur Pollard, of Hull University, chairman of the Secondary Examinations Council's committees monitoring the GCSE and 18-plus English examinations. He has been involved in the selection of the set texts for generations of A level students. He applauded the high incidence of adventure stories, lamented the absence *Thomas the Tank Engine*, and forgave the absence of Shakespeare on reflecting that drama is better encountered initially in the theatre.

The final list contains little poetry and only one work of non-fiction (*Anne Frank's Diary*). The senior and middle lists are divided more or less equally between living and dead authors; living writers understandably dominate the list for young children, but the appeal of Kipling, Potter and Milne has proved durable.

> *'Nine out of 10 new books are ephemeral, and parents need better advice'*
> Bryan Alderson

Many panellists found it hard to pare their list down from the vast wealth of titles available. Isobel Raphael, head of Channing School, a girls' public school in north London, recommended only a few books by title and stressed the importance of introducing younger children to a wide range of Bible stories, fairy stories and myths, and encouraging older ones to forage among the classics and autobiography.

Some panellists found it difficult to fit books into the three age-groups. Inga-Stina Ewbank, Professor of English at Leeds University, said: "It is very difficult to attach books to ages, children differ so widely". Because of this, several books, including *Treasure Island*, *Eagle of the Ninth* and the *Just So Stories*, would have qualified for more than one age group.

The upper age-limit was felt to create a similar problem. Professor Ewbank pointed out that her own 16-year-old daughter was reading Zola and Jackie Collins.

Elizabeth Attenborough shared the feelings of other panellists so strongly that she prepared her list for children up to the age of 14 only. After that, she said, "they should be reading and trying out absolutely everything".

George Hill and Sara Driver

AGES 3-7

(The number of panellists' votes per book is given, right)

Just So Stories Rudyard Kipling	6
The Tale of Peter Rabbit Beatrix Potter	6
Charlotte's Web E.B. White	5
The Very Hungry Caterpillar Eric Carle	5
The World of Pooh A.A. Milne	5
Dogger Shirley Hughes	4
Mr Gumpy's Outing John Burningham	4
Where the Wild Things Are Maurice Sendak	4
Each Peach Pear Plum Allan and Janet Ahlberg	3
Mr Magnolia Quentin Blake	3
Now We Are Six A.A. Milne	3
Rosie's Walk Pat Hutchins	3
Where's Spot? Eric Hill	3

AGES 8-11

The Wind in the Willows Kenneth Grahame	8
The Hobbit J.R.R. Tolkien	7
Tom's Midnight Garden Philippa Pearce	7
BFG Roald Dahl	5
The Iron Man Ted Hughes	5
The Secret Garden Frances Hodgson Burnett	5
A Christmas Carol Charles Dickens	4
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe C.S. Lewis	4
Alice in Wonderland Lewis Carroll	3
Complete Nonsense Book of Edward Lear Edward Lear	3
The Ghost of Thomas Kempe Penelope Lively	3
The Silver Sword Ian Serralier	3
Stig of the Dump Clive King	3
The Stone Book Alan Garner	3
The Treasure Seekers E. Nesbit	3
The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tyler Gene Kemp	3
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase Joan Aitken	3

AGES 12-18

Eagle of the Ninth Rosemary Sutcliffe	6
Treasure Island R.L. Stevenson	5
Brother in the Land Robert Swindells	4
Smith Leon Garfield	4
The Machine Gunners Robert Westall	4
1984 George Orwell	3
Carrie's War Nina Bawden	3
Catcher in the Rye J.D. Salinger	3
The Box of Delights John Masefield	3
The Diary of Anne Frank Anne Frank	3
The Earthsea Trilogy Ursula Le Guin	3
Emil and the Detectives Erich Kästner	3
Goldengrove Jill Paton Walsh	3
Huckleberry Finn Mark Twain	3
Jane Eyre Charlotte Brontë	3
The Hound of the Baskervilles A. Conan Doyle	3
Lord of the Flies William Golding	3
Moonfleet J. Meade Falkner	3
The Owl Service Alan Garner	3
Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen	3

The Times panel

Elizabeth Attenborough: Editorial Director of Puffin, Kestrel, Viking Books.
Professor Inga-Stina Ewbank: Professor of English at Leeds University.
Chris Powling: Writer, broadcaster, lecturer.
Nina Bawden: Prize-winning author.
Jan Mark: Writer and lecturer.
Shirley Hughes: Children's author.
Eunice McMullen: Director of the Children's Book Foundation.
Bryan Alderson: Children's books critic, *The Times*.
Elaine Moss: Reviewer and critic.
Michael Spilberg: Headmaster of Lyndhurst House Preparatory School.
Isabel Raphael: Headmistress of Channing School.
Roy Yates: Library Services Director of Baker Books; Chairman of the Bookseller's Association Children's Bookselling Group.

Growing up over 40 years

It is Jane Austen alone whom age does not wither, nor custom stale. *Pride and Prejudice* is the only work in our list of 50 which appears both on this summer's "advisory book list" for the London and East Anglian Group GCSE and also among the set books for the 1947-8 matriculation paper.

The contrast between the two lists of exam texts is sharp. The old list would have been studied by the top 20-25 per cent of pupils at the then school-leaving age of 15, while the GCSE syllabus is for 16-year-olds, and is designed to cater for all abilities.

The 1948 examiners required a choice of three works from a list of three plays, three novels, six long poems such as Gray's *Elegy* and Wordsworth's *Tintern Abbey*, and two anthologies of short poems and essays.

The plays were *Macbeth*, *Henry IV, Part I* and John Drinkwater's *Abraham Lincoln*, and the novels (in addition to the adventures of Mr Bennett's *Lizzie*) were Lorna Doone and Hugh Walpole's *The Cathedral*. Methuen's *Anthology of Modern Verse* included living poets such as Belloc.

This year, it is suggested that "at least two books" of prose and "a wide variety of poems" should be studied from an immense list of 29 plays, 76 prose works, and 21 anthologies of verse.

The 1948 list contains no extended work by a writer alive at that time, but about a quarter of the GCSE list is by living authors — and a dozen or so deal with arguably "ethnic" issues, ranging from Huckleberry Finn to a West Indian verse anthology.

The mix is giddyingly heterogeneous: Achebe, Gorki, Hemingway, Lessing, Shute, Sillitoe and Dylan Thomas clamour for the students' attention; *Kes* rubs shoulders with *Oliver Twist*, *Macbeth* with *Kiss Kiss*, *The Mayor of Casterbridge* with *Gregory's Girl*, and *Roots* with *The Day of the Triffids*.

The Times 100

Correct answers to three of Tuesday's "100 questions for every sixth-former" are: Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1903 and for chemistry in 1911. Strictly, Britain is a member of the European Monetary System, though we do not subscribe to its principal function, the exchange rate mechanism. The phrase "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" formed part of the American Declaration of Independence.

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Business takes off

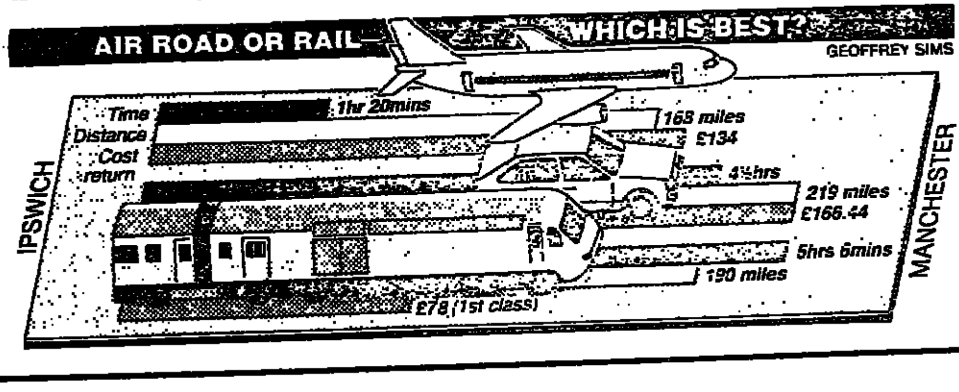
As Britain's roads and airports become ever more congested, tiny airlines are springing up to cater for the businessman. Harvey Elliott reports

ROS DRINKWATER

The plane at your door: encouraged by the giants, Roy Suckling's airline, Britain's smallest, is now one of 46 flying from 136 licensed aerodromes. Below, how the competitors compare

AIR ROAD OR RAIL — WHICH IS BEST?

GEOFFREY SIMS



Financial consultant Donald Daltry is one of a growing number of British businessmen who have discovered that commuting by air not only saves time but makes money, too. Daltry wanted to open a new office in Manchester, but as this would require regular trips to supervise the operation, the thought of the lengthy road or rail journey from his Ipswich base almost put him off.

Then Britain's smallest airline, Suckling Aviation, announced it was opening a scheduled service between the two cities. "Suddenly I discovered I could leave my office at 9.15 and be in central Manchester by 11. It was fantastic . . . the whole project became viable."

His air travel is not only much quicker — around 80 minutes from Ipswich airport to Manchester city centre, compared with at least four and a half hours by road and around five hours by rail — but at £114 return (plus £20 in taxi fares) it is considerably cheaper than going by car using the AA's estimated cost of 38p per mile. There is also a problem with the first-class train trip — the time factor makes it almost impossible to travel out, complete any business and return the same day.

Suckling is now one of 46 scheduled airlines operating regular flights from 136 licensed aerodromes in Britain. Many have only one or two aircraft, but their punctuality and service eclipse any big airline.

This is the kind of travel Americans have taken for granted for years. In Britain, however, local air travel is only now being taken seriously. As roads and major airports become more congested, passengers are beginning to appreciate that local flights are not only quicker but more relaxing, too.

At least 30 scheduled British airlines, both big and small, are now crossing the Channel, recognizing the big potential market for direct flights from the regions.

Chris Healy, sales and retail director of Southend-based Falmer Jeans, was spared driving to Heathrow or Gatwick for flights to Brussels, where he wanted to expand his chain of outlets, when National Commuter Airways began regular flights from Southend. "We can now make the journey without all the hassle of getting into London and we get to Belgium not only quicker but more refreshed."

The big airlines are happy too. The last thing they want is tiny aircraft, often carrying fewer than a dozen passengers, competing for scarce runway time at Heathrow or Gatwick; British Airways even agreed, two years ago, to make cash available to enable the small airlines to get started.

There are still problems. New aircraft, even small, second-hand ones, are not cheap; safety regulations are stringent and costly to comply with; passengers demand a high level of service. All this makes them more expensive than the big operators.

Yet this is not putting off newcomers such as Air Metro, a joint venture between Bournemouth Airport and a new airline company. "Many business travellers within a 50-mile radius of Bournemouth have to actually pass us on their way to Heathrow or Gatwick," said Christopher Hayward, chairman of the airport.

Air Furness, in Barrow-in-Furness, is equally enthusiastic. It operates a regular flight to Manchester from "the longest cul de sac in the world" and cuts normal travelling time in half. Ryanair in Cardiff has had such success with its flights to Dublin that it has increased services from three to five days a week.

"Commuter services are the fastest growing sector of aviation," said Mike Ambrose of the European Regional Airlines Organization. "As the hub airports become full then direct centre-to-centre services are bound to increase."

Now small organizations such as Gill Aviation are bidding for scheduled routes from Newcastle to Edinburgh, Region Air wants to fly twice a day from Southend to Rotterdam, and well-established Loganair, which now carries 322,000 passengers a year, mainly around the Highlands and islands of Scotland, has applied formally to the Civil Aviation Authority to operate the Glasgow and Edinburgh to Gatwick services.

Airports themselves, many of them owned by local authorities, are anxious to prepare for and benefit from the coming boom. This year alone regional airports are expected to spend about £22 million on improvements.

Many have become public limited companies and the Government is anxious to attract private investors to expand them still further. With airports such as Bristol showing a 40 per cent growth in the last six months of 1986, they are daily becoming more attractive.

FINDINGS

A weekly series on research

ASTRONOMY

Globular star clusters, the spherical bundles of stars that swarm like ants in and around galaxies, are providing astronomers with a new yardstick for measuring the universe. These clusters consist of red giants, the oldest stars in a galaxy. Their apparent brightness has always offered an opportunity to gauge distance — the fainter, the more distant.

Unfortunately, the clusters vary wildly in brightness and size. Canadian astronomer William Harris, of McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, has now found that the *brightest* clusters around any galaxy always have the same real brightness. This will allow astronomers to calculate the distance to any galaxy with detectable globular clusters. *Keith Hindley*

PUBLIC OPINION

A recent survey conducted by Eurobarometer on the attitudes of Europeans towards a "government of Europe", suggests that the Channel still gives rise to some nationalism. When asked whether they would vote for a candidate from another member country, residents of Luxemburg were the most inclined to, with 73% responding "it is possible", followed by France (70%), the Netherlands (68%), Italy (64%), Belgium (60%), Ireland (58%), Greece (54%), Portugal (54%), Denmark, (52%), Germany (51%) and Spain (51%). The United Kingdom was the only country to score less than half (47%). *Robert Worcester*

CONSERVATION

Malaysian research in the South China Sea indicates that about 1,600 turtles — leatherbacks, Olive Ridley's and greens — drown annually when caught in trawl and drift nets. Survival is especially low in trawls because this gear is submerged far longer than the hour a turtle can survive before drowning. A similar problem occurs in shrimp trawls off Carolina and Texas in the US, where 1,500 loggerhead turtles drown annually. Such deaths can be reduced by using a trawling efficiency device (a barred cage placed in front of the trawl) and by a knowledge of turtle resuscitation techniques. *Paul Munton*

THE TIMES

SATURDAY

Brave shot

Yousuf Karsh is the man who made his name by snatching a cigar from Winston Churchill's mouth a moment before taking his portrait (left). Since then, as Karsh of Ottawa, he has become court photographer to the rich, the powerful and the glamorous. To celebrate his eightieth birthday the biggest ever exhibition of his work opens in London next week.

Bryan Appleyard spoke exclusively to the man whose camera has flattered popes, princes and even Fidel Castro

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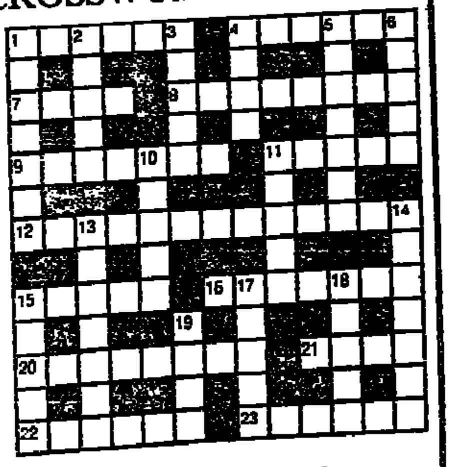

ACROSS
1 Not awake (6)
4 The Gambia capital (6)
7 Towards (4)
8 Exhaust driven turbine (8)
9 Wheeled conveyance (7)
11 Supreme German god (5)
12 Dumbfounded (13)
15 60's dropout (5)
16 Sales item (7)
20 Body frame (8)
21 Lass (4)
22 Harem guard (6)
23 Parliamentary vacation (6)

DOWN
1 Scandinavian spice spirit (7)
2 Door bar (5)
3 Corolla part (5)
4 Celtic poet (4)
5 Old Japanese self defence (7)
6 Italian (5)
10 Small cabin (5)
11 Moisten (5)
13 Countless (7)
14 Lights (7)
15 Hurry (5)
17 Saul's army commander (5)
18 Central Australian town (5)
19 Yearnings (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1492

ACROSS: 1 Libyan 4 Pompom 9 Proffer 10 Floor 11 Amid 12 Noisily 14 Convolution 18 Fanatic 19 Ramp 22 Unman 24 Neutral 25 Eolith 26 Stolen

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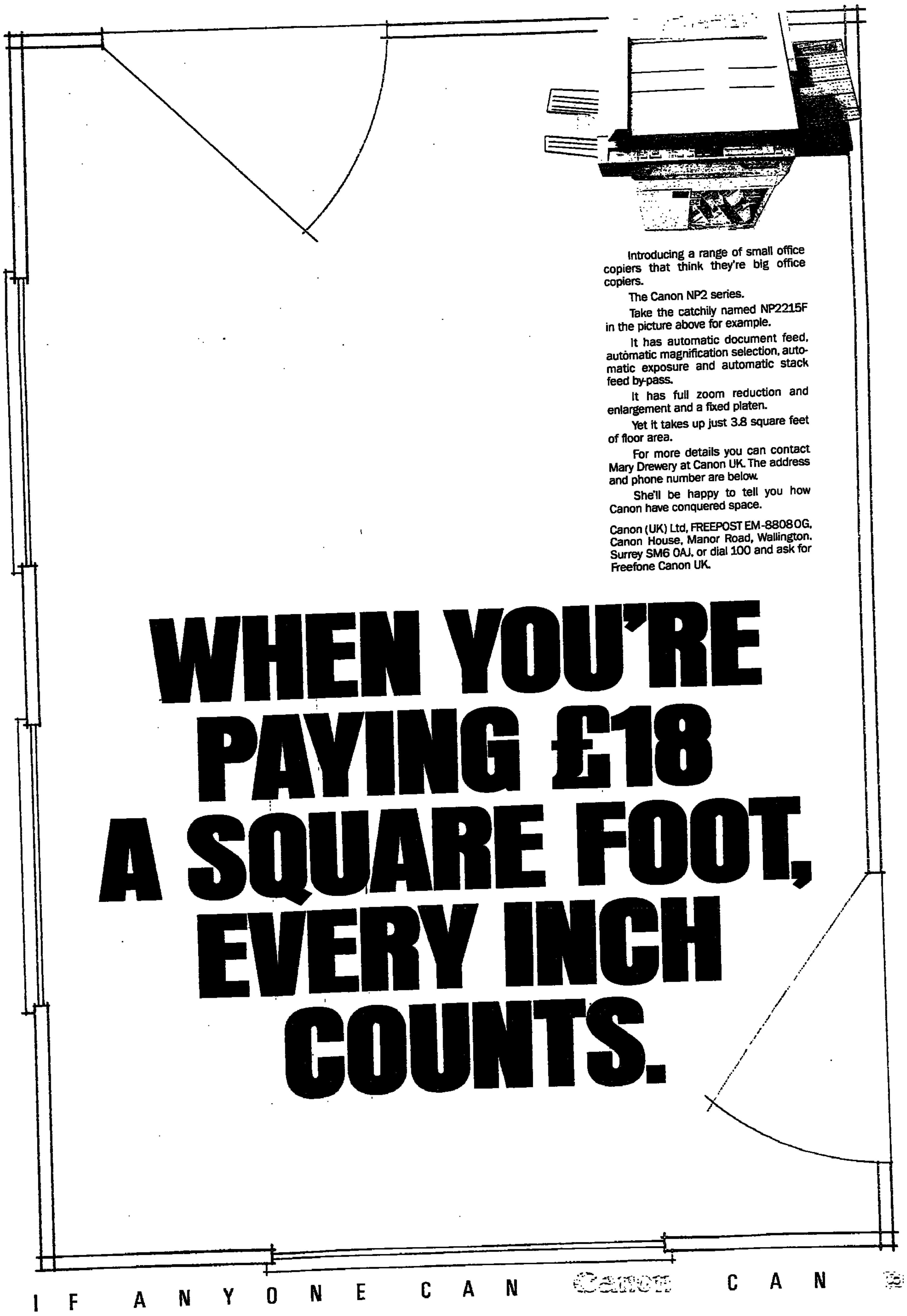

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TIMES DIARY

LORD ST JOHN OF FAWSLEY

The House of Lords continues to astonish me. It is both grand and cosy, friendly and yet on occasion can be astringent. Most amazing of all it is entirely self-regulated. Despite the sedateness of their Lordships (or should I say "Our") something extraordinary seems to happen every day. First there were the demonstrating ladies hovering over our coroneted heads clinging to ropes like lemurs: then we had the prophetic Old Testament figure of the Chief Rabbi arriving all dolled up in ermine and somewhere to go, sailing in to enrich our debates, and on Wednesday I looked up to see the Prince of Wales in a subfusc suit as might have been sported by any ordinary peer, moving modestly to the despatch box to take the oath.

Where will it all end? With Cardinal Hume, I hope. Why should we not see the most respected English Catholic prelate since Cardinal Hinsley taking his place on the red benches? Basil Hume is not a great ecclesiastical statesman in the mould of Cardinal Manning but he has achieved something rather more significant: he has brought a spiritual presence into the mainstream of English life. You don't spend years in prayer in a monastery without it showing. So why not allow us to hear that particular voice of the Spirit in our premier chamber?

Dr Runcie, another great churchman, is far too generous to object, and the Prime Minister is wholly without religious prejudice. And think of the possibilities. Cardinal Hume is more *papabile* than any other Englishman since Cardinal Pole in the 16th century. His correct form of address after such an elevation would challenge the ingenuity even of Sir Colin Cole, our redoubtable Garter King of Arms.

I have never understood why T.S. Eliot stigmatized the lovely English April as "the cruellest month." January would be my candidate with post-Christmas blues in the cold and drizzle. But February, that is quite another matter, even without this year's extraordinary combination of mildness and glittering sunshine. I hail February every time I go into my garden and see the carpet of delicate white snowdrops and yellow aconites that have so magically appeared.

I'm afraid I do buy the poor forced spring blooms in the shops but nothing can beat real flowers growing out of the ground at their natural time. This year there has been a bonus, the full crimson glory of Fulgarb, an early rhododendron, which makes up for the wretched birds, who have eaten every purple bud off my beloved Daphne, who peers at me through the breakfast room window in the morning, raising my blood pressure and enabling me to start the day.

February is the gardener's month of hope with its presages of the glories of spring that are still to come.

BARRY FANTONI

'Remind me, does that mean we're keeping Trident or scrapping it?'

Another form of plant was in the news yesterday when I witnessed the Princess of Wales deftly inserting an oak in the ground near the Orangery in Kensington Gardens. The campaign to replace the 5,000 trees lost in the royal parks in the gales of last October was launched by Prince Charles in December. In Kensington Gardens alone more than 300 mature trees were destroyed.

The *eminence grise* behind the project has been Mr Neville Labovich, the dedicated chairman of the Knightsbridge Association. Anyone can send a tree to this excellent cause. You don't have to put it in the post but just send in £100 and you'll get a royal certificate by return. The latest donor, I hear, is Mary Soames, doubtless in memory of the never-to-be-forgotten Christopher, who along with Peter Carrington in Cabinet could always be relied on to support the arts. *Osi sic omnes!*

Speaking of the arts, I suppose the drama can lay claim to be the leading English art form. This is strange for an undemonstrative nation but in fact we are a theatrical people and care about the show — hence the dignified parts of the constitution. The English imagination is strong but suppressed. It is bursting out this winter in two remarkable performances. I have just seen Eric Porter as Big Daddy in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* on the South Bank, and Maggie Smith as Lettice in *Lettice and Lovage* in the West End.

Mr Porter's excoriation of the mendacity in every part of our lives, personal, familial and religious, is one of the most powerful theatrical experiences I have known. Miss Smith is the great comic actress of our time who demonstrates that comedy can be as profoundly moving and revealing as tragedy. Her "Oh Dear" when reality breaks in on her fantasy world at the end of the first act and she realizes that she is in danger of losing her job as guide in a dull, broken-down mansion is a gem always to be treasured.

Can that miserable Arts Council, surely the most detested body in England, really be proposing effectively to cut the grant of the National Theatre which can produce a flow of such masterpieces, and this at a time when they are dripping with Mrs Thatcher's largesse? Off with their heads, or at any rate their ears.

Keith Middlemas on how Whitehall could make itself more open

First step to public trust

It is a profound conservative principle that the past, properly understood, serves as a guide to where we are and where we are to go. But most people absorb nothing of value about recent history from school and little but personalities and trivia afterwards. Since the First World War governments have oscillated between active propaganda and solemn defensiveness. Guarding what they call secrets, they believe themselves to be a wise elite, under siege from a volatile public; their electors, looking in, see them as masters behind the screens, converting knowledge into power. Educated trust has often been the first casualty of both sides.

But governments ought not to see themselves as nannies to shelter children from dangerous knowledge, but as auditors to help distinguish between volume and quality, "to know", as an Oxford don once put it, "when a man is talking cant".

Who should know, and why? Politicians not yet in office who will have to practise as professionals in the future; commentators whose business is to interpret; and voters who want to appraise governments' performance. None of these is as well informed as is desirable in a complex modern polity.

Reform of the Official Secrets Act is only the beginning. If the sensible ideas from Mr Hurd floated recently about his forthcoming Bill are a guide, then we shall at last have a sound rule distinguishing between unimportant, semi-important and genuinely secret information, with only the last safeguarded by the criminal law. But unless everything in the first category is to be treated positively and opened to public scrutiny, the Home Secretary will not actually be helping to educate the public.

The first requirement is to reduce the 30-year rule on access to government archives, preferably to 15 (there exists already a sort of licence for those who participated in the events to write within that period). Bringing the 1957-73 archives into the long process of historical rending down would increase our understanding of the most important transitions in recent British history. Instead of worrying about the minutiae of the Suez fiasco, we could learn more of broad trends: how a post-imperial power reacted to a much reduced role, with a foreign policy limited very largely to its membership of the EEC and Nato.

On an almost taboo subject like immigration, material would become available to study the whole process from its late 1950s peak to the arrival of the last major contingent from East Africa: and we could begin to understand what — in Conservative circles at least — remains the "black hole" of the Heath administration of 1970-74.

Ministers guard very jealously their power selectively to release information or to leak — as Carlyle put it, "for men are very porous, weighty secrets oozing out of them like quicksilver through clay jars." We know a lot and suspect more about propaganda techniques and deal sceptically even with government statistics about the economy. But secrecy has remained a pervasive characteristic of British government. Many of the rules have been made up along the way: it was shown during the Crossman diaries case, for example, that the "ancient" doctrine of Cabinet secrecy derived largely from Cabinet Office rules drafted in 1934 after a particularly bad leak.

Yet there is no good reason why news about the vast bulk of government activity is handled as it is. Why do we perpetuate absurd fictions about how Cabinet works? Ministers are quite well enough shielded from lobbies and interest groups. Without lifting the screen, let it be made less mystifying; let the Cabinet Secretary (whose prime duty is to the Cabinet as a whole) prepare, agree with ministers, and deliver after each meeting a public briefing on the main items of business discussed, not as a means to undermine the lobby system for Question Time but to provide a less passionate counterweight. So also for Cabinet committees, all but those in the most secret categories. Collective responsibility would benefit as well as public understanding about range and content, though not of course about detail.

There is an old Civil Service tradition on which we could build to provide information in terms other than those dictated by party politics: the departmental history written by a senior civil servant. Sir Maurice Hankey's war book, describing how the state geared up for the 1914-18 war emergency, was not only of great value in 1939 but set a precedent for later war books, guides to contingency planning in crises such as the 1967 devaluation. His projected peace book, covering the civil process, was never written, but the idea continued, for example with internal Treasury histories, such as Sir Hugh Ellis-Rees's history of the 1947 sterling crisis (written in 1961 and significant in its own right).

This is a tradition from which all three categories of those who need to know can benefit. Let each department set down its working memories now, and update it every five years. There are many officials on the point of retirement who would be both competent and happy to do the job. What minister, taking up a new office, would not welcome such a guide to the departmental ethos, embodying the wisdom of at least 40 years? After five years, publish them — in condensed form if necessary — as contributions to a new and continuing Official History of Government.

Other parts of the state have their own history. Those who find its Quarterly Bulletin hard going could in general terms still find out how the Bank of England works, or even MI5 and MI6 — vital institutions which apparently are either (or both) full of Russian spies and dedicated to the overthrow of Labour administrations. Is there nothing that could be said about their mundane necessary work that would not inflame suspicion or impair governments secret powers of surveillance? To come to terms with the question what ought the public, in the public interest, to know is at least to begin the long overdue change from defensiveness to trust.

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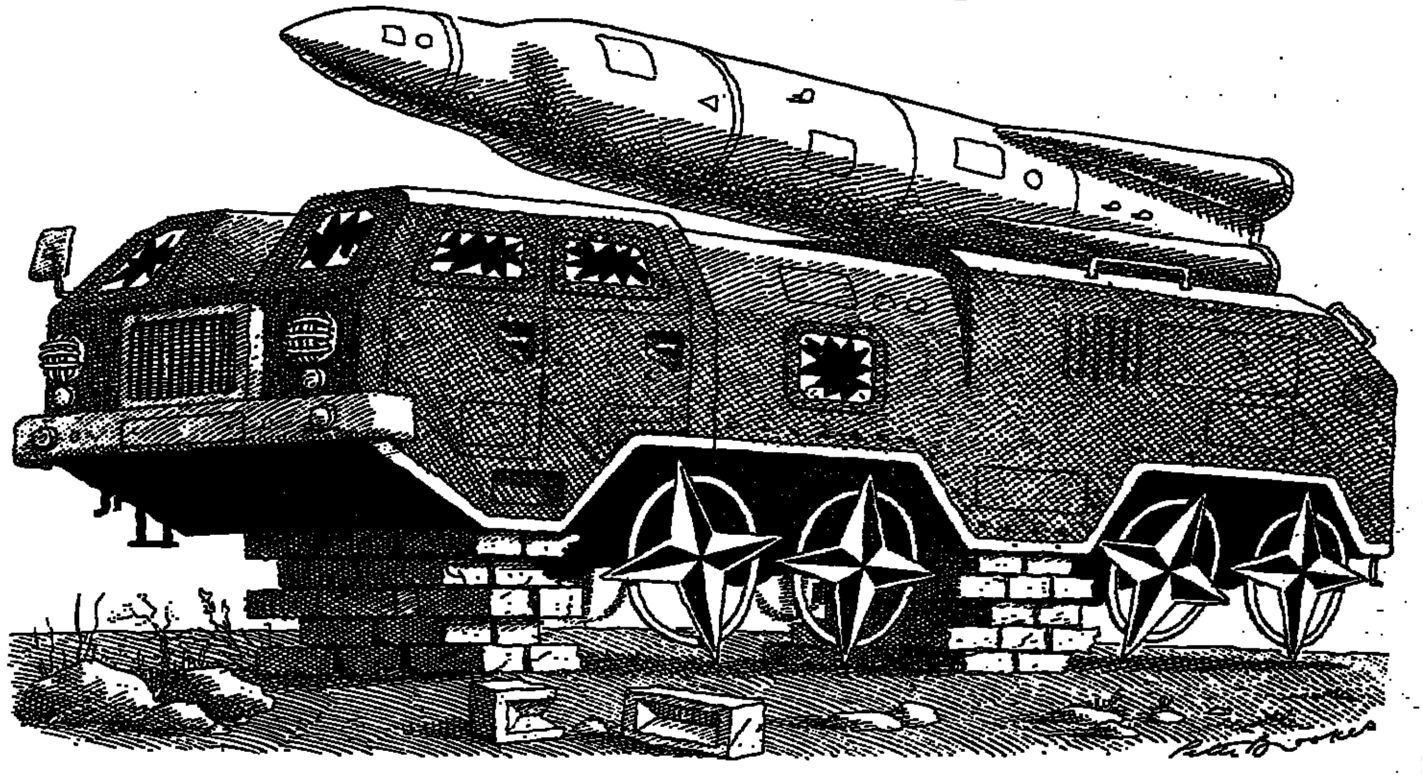
The author is professor of history at the University of Sussex.

Alun Chalfont

Can Thatcher rally Europe?



When Western leaders meet at the Nato summit on March 2, their main task will be to defuse the time bomb which began to tick when President Reagan and Mr Gorbachov signed the agreement on intermediate range nuclear missiles. If the INF treaty were ratified by the US Senate, and the arms control process stopped there, it would not, in itself, be a matter of profound importance.

It affects only a small proportion of the nuclear delivery systems of both superpowers; and the danger of cheating by the Soviet Union — one of the crucial issues in any arms control agreement — has been minimized, if not entirely removed, by the decision to include *all* weapons in this category, with no exceptions.

There is, however, more to come; and the debate so far has exposed some fallacies in Western thinking which give cause for serious concern about the next stages. The first is the common belief that the treaty will actually restore the situation which obtained before intermediate range missiles (in the form of the Russian SS20 and the American cruise and Pershing II) were deployed. This is, of course, not so. A great deal has happened in the meantime — most significantly in the balance of short-range missiles, in which the Soviet Union now enjoys a substantial superiority.

The accommodating Mr Gorbachov has the solution to this — he is willing to negotiate them away as well. If that happens, he will have achieved one of the aims which has been at the heart of Soviet arms control policy since the 1950s — a nuclear-free zone in Europe; and it is here that the next flaw emerges in the thinking of those in the West who regard this possibility with equanimity.

They seem to believe that the doctrine of flexible response envisages a nicely calculated ladder of escalation leading rung by rung from conventional to all-out nuclear war, and that to remove some of the rungs is to make the ascent more difficult.

Flexible response is, in fact, something rather different. It is designed to deter an enemy from mounting an assault at any level by posing the threat of effective response at the same level. Denuclearizing Western Europe, therefore, would not make nuclear war less likely. On the contrary, the only deterrent against a conventional attack would then be the threat posed by the American, French and British strategic nuclear systems — a return, in fact, to the dangerous and discredited doctrine of massive retaliation.

Gorbachov has the answer to this, too. It is to abolish *all* nuclear weapons. The 50 per cent reduction proposed for the next Reagan-Gorbachov summit is to be the first step towards realizing that cherished dream shared by the Red Army generals and the "peace" people of the West — a nuclear-free world. What this means is a world free once more for the waging of conventional war — a state of affairs acceptable only to those, like Gorbachov, with overwhelming military forces at their disposal; or to those in the West with no experience of the numbing, de-humanizing horror of "conventional" warfare.

It is in this context that the Nato debate now has to be conducted. The Gorbachov arms control strategy is crucial to the central aim of Soviet foreign policy — the decoupling of the United States from Western Europe, and the consequent unravelling of the Western alliance. Gorbachov must be gratified by the fissiparous effect of his carefully planned initiative. Already Anglo-French attitudes to the modernization of short-range nuclear systems are on a collision course with those of West Germany, and the European allies are rehearsing for yet another performance of their celebrated impression of hens in a thunderstorm.

There is now a real danger that the common interest of Gorbachov and Reagan in securing short-term successes in arms control might leave a legacy of long-term shifts in the global balance of power which would leave the West vulnerable to the threat which it has so effectively resisted for 40 years. It may well be, of course, as some Western observers evidently believe, that this threat is rapidly disappearing under the governance of Gorbachov, and that the Warsaw Pact is, indeed, reassessing its aggressive strategic doctrines.

But it would at best be naïvely foolish, and at worst criminally irresponsible, for any Western government to conduct its foreign policies on the assumption that this was so. Even imputing the most benevolent motives to the Soviet leadership (in itself a notable triumph of hope over experience), the move from suspicion and military confrontation to the relationship of harmony and mutual trust has to be managed with realism and skill. A programme of arms reduction carries with it the same dangers of instability as a continuation of the much excoriated "arms race". In both cases, it is essential that at no stage should either side be tempted to believe that the situation offered the possibility of a successful military strike.

It would seem prudent, therefore, that the West European leaders should insist upon certain conditions as a price for their continued support of Reagan's negotiating strategy. These include the modernization of nuclear weapon systems not included in the INF agreement; the achievement of effective reductions in conventional forces and chemical weapons *before* any further reductions in nuclear systems; a clear understanding that the British and French strategic forces are expressly excluded from the next round of Soviet-US discussions; and a clear undertaking by Reagan that there will be no compromise on his Strategic Defence Initiative — indeed, that it is not a subject for negotiation.

Mrs Thatcher's thinking appears to point generally in this direction. Her relationship with Reagan qualifies her uniquely to mobilize West European governments in the important task of influencing the future direction of American policy; but in the longer term she has a task of at least equal importance.

It is to persuade the European allies that, whatever agreements may be made between the superpowers, Western Europe will increasingly need to accept much more of the burden of ensuring its own security. The present situation poses grave dangers, but at the same time offers great opportunities.

In the worst case, we might be on the verge of the virtual disintegration of Nato, with West Germany seeking some kind of accommodation with the Soviet Union and the rest of Western Europe effectively "Finlandized". The alternative is the emergence of a serious West European defence community, able to pose an effective deterrent to attack at any level. This postulates closer co-operation in nuclear strategy, which must be based on the existing French and British systems, but from which Germany cannot be permanently excluded, as well as the development of modern tactics and techniques for con ventional defence. If Reagan's legacy is to be, as now seems likely, the emergence of a strong, secure, and confident Soviet Union, Mrs Thatcher's might well be the emergence of a strong, secure and confident Europe.

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Lord Chalfont, a vice-president of the European Atlantic Group, is the author of Defence of the Realm, 1987.

• ROBERT KILROY-SILK

Just antagonistic

What a lot of moaners the British are. There's not another nation like us. No wonder the Australians contemptuously call us "whingeing Poms". We are. Almost every new idea, every novel suggestion, every radical proposal, is invariably drowned in a shower of condescending and derisive criticism. We seem to be incapable of reacting to anything new with constructive enthusiasm. We harp instead on the potential drawbacks.

An adversarial political system contributes to this peculiar propensity to be negative and bitch. Of course it's an essential function of the opposition to identify and highlight the weaknesses and inconsistencies in government policy. The trouble nowadays, however, is that, with the splendid exception of David Owen, this role is performed with rather too much childlike glee charged with more than a little spite. The opposition has become a gaggle of moaning minnies swooping on every fault and apparently unable to see merit in anything, even that which it once supported.

This disease has now infected those good friends and esteemed campaigners who do daily battle to make our criminal justice system more civilized. Hardly a new initiative in penal policy can be announced without it being almost immediately submerged under a suffocating avalanche of destructive dissent.

This opposition isn't organized or even orchestrated. Nothing so clever or sinister. It's just that it is already in existence waiting to provide the succinct quotes for the news pages and the letters columns. The ethos that what is new must be bad, especially if proposed by a Tory government, is now so firmly ingrained in the minds of some of the best of the liberal establishment, has become such a fixed part of their value-system, that their first response to any reform is negative.

This has been the case in the last few years over recommendations for the introduction of weekend imprisonment, day detention, the privatization of prisons and, more recently, for the electronic tagging of offenders. I don't wish to suggest that any of these are without their difficulties or that they represent a significant answer to the problem of prison overcrowding. They're not and they don't. But neither are they without merit. Yet each has been rejected out of hand, often in a tone of unmerited intellectual superiority.

Worse is the frequent implication, sometimes articulated, that the advocates of reform, particularly if they are Conservative ministers, are cynically Machiavellian, actually seeking to increase the prison population — though heaven knows why.

Some of these characteristics have been displayed in the outburst over the suggested introduction of electronic tagging. One might reasonably expect that a proposal for offenders to be imprisoned in the comfort of their own home where they could remain with their family and, perhaps, continue at work, would find favour with those concerned to rehabilitate felons and reduce the prison population. But not one penal reformer from such august bodies as Nacro and the Prison Reform Trust has come to its defence. All have condemned the scheme.

Why? The first reason they give is a technical one: it would not work. They speak of the electronic signal being masked by refrigerators, and of it breaking down. This is so patently spurious and insincere that it's not worth discussing. More important is the contention that it is "degrading" and offensive to strap a bracelet on someone's wrist or ankle. So it is. But it's far less degrading and offensive than being locked up with two others in a cell for 23 hours a day.

Tagging is also said to be "negative" since what is required is a constructive alternative to prison. Agreed. But then prison itself is negative — as are most probation orders. At least in practice. Indeed, if the probation service had made its supervision constructive so that it gained credibility and the confidence of the courts, the Government might have looked to the service to provide alternatives rather than being forced to seek new ones. The probation service's failure is the Government's motivation for tagging.

It might not work. It might not result in the sought-for reduction in the prison population. That's a real fear. Experience with community service orders suggest that some of those who will be sentenced to be tagged would not otherwise have gone to prison. But some would have done. And they and the rest of us will benefit as a consequence.

In any event, there's little to lose. Wouldn't it have been good if, just for once, the response could have been to roll up one's sleeves and say, "OK, let's give it a go"?

The author was a Merseyside Labour MP, 1974-86.

SCIENCE REPORT

Matter over mind

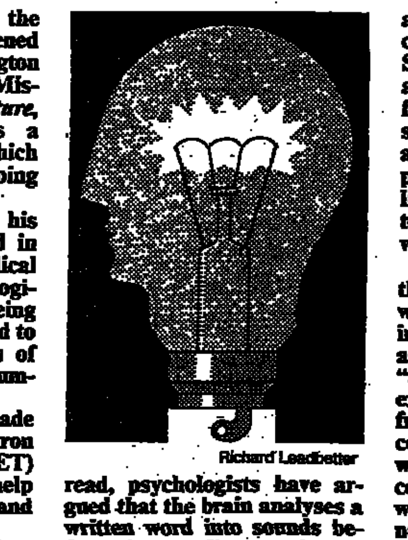
A new window on how the brain works has been opened by researchers at Washington University, St Louis, Missouri. In this week's *Nature*, they offer psychologists a technique for telling which parts of the brain are doing what at any time.

Dr Marcus Raichle and his colleagues have succeeded in adapting advanced medical brain scanners to psychological experimentation, freeing psychologists from the need to divine the inner workings of the human mind from circumstantial evidence.

The device that has made this possible is the positron emission tomography (PET) scanner, developed to help surgeons locate tumours and other brain abnormalities.

The principle of the application to psychology is straightforward: thinking requires energy. When a part of the brain is in use, local blood flow increases to speed the delivery of glucose and oxygen. A PET scanner allows changes in local blood flow to be monitored by injecting a small amount of a radioactive tracer into the bloodstream. Using gamma ray detectors linked to computers, the scanner identifies the parts of the brain where blood flow is increased.

The first use of the new technique in psychology settles an old controversy over whether the written word is dealt with by the brain in the same way as the spoken word. Because children learn to speak before they learn to read, psychologists have argued that the brain analyses a written word into sounds before the word's meaning is understood. But the new study shows that this is unlikely: signals representing written words by-pass the "inner ear" of the brain where spoken words are processed, going directly to the parts of the brain concerned with meaning.



Richard Leadbetter

The method is not perfect and increased mental activity can be located only to within a quarter of an inch. But that is sufficient to wed the computer image to an atlas of the brain to identify the active areas.

To follow the pathways used in reading and listening, the researchers added mental tasks one by one. With each added task, new areas of the brain lit up. As expected, when subjects look at a flash of light, the scanner reveals activity in parts of the visual cortex at the back of the brain. Simple sounds stimulate the auditory lobe much further forward. Single words, presented by eye or ear without asking the subject to pay any particular attention to them, light up additional areas close to those dealing with simple visual and auditory sensations.

Subjects were also asked to think about the meaning of the word they were seeing or hearing and to speak aloud an associated word, for example "eat" for "cake". In that experiment, areas of the left frontal brain, the association cortex, lit up. But written words did not excite the areas concerned with the sounds of words, suggesting that it is not necessary to analyse the sound of a written word before it can be understood.

This first result is only a taste of what is to come. A PET system said to be twice as precise as any other has begun operation at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories in California, enabling scientists to see structures in the brain not previously observable.

Psychologists will now use PET scanners to learn more about how the brain makes sense of the physical world, and there will be applications outside the laboratory — surgeons may be helped to avoid vital areas when removing brain tumours, and the mechanism of psychiatric illnesses may be better understood.

ALUN ANDERSON

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THE TIMES

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BUDGETING FOR VOTES

The background to President Reagan's final budget was sharply illuminated by events in the New Hampshire primary earlier this week. Questioned on his defeat by Vice-President George Bush, Senator Robert Dole's first response was to rebut the "lies", put about by Mr Bush, that he wanted to raise taxes. Evidently the last thing Mr Dole wanted to be associated with was a responsible fiscal policy which he believed had cost him a significant number of votes at a crucial early stage in the presidential race.

For the rest of the world this is a disappointing comment on the nature of US politics. But it hardly comes as a surprise. The shadow of the presidential election has for months hung over the struggle to rein back America's budget deficit. Its influence can only increase as President Reagan's term draws to a close.

The President's budget proposals for the fiscal year of 1989, which begins next October, display every sign of election frailty. At face value the plans are reasonably satisfactory. A deficit of $150.4 billion in "fiscal 1987" is expected to fall to one of $146.7 billion in the current year and then to fall again next year to $129.5 billion. Such a rate of progress towards financial responsibility is hardly spectacular but at least it would achieve the Gramm-Rudman targets.

Unfortunately the cuts seem to have been achieved largely by the simple expedient of assuming the world is a kinder place than it is. The non-partisan Congressional Budget Office recently forecast that, far from falling from last year's level, the deficit would by 1989 have risen to about $176 billion. This was before the very modest cut in spending and increase in charges proposed in the budget, but the direction of change, in the CBO's view, remains clear.

The difference lies mainly in the level of optimism about the US rate of growth next year. Mr Reagan has boldly assumed that the economy will grow by 3.5 per cent which will help to keep tax revenue up and social security spending down. The CBO by contrast takes the unpatriotic view that the economy will grow by only 2.6 per cent – a figure much closer to that of other unbiased observers.

There is a similar difference of opinion about 1988, leading to a similar divergence of view on the outlook for the deficit. The CBO forecasts a rise in the deficit to $157 billion, the administration a fall to $146.7 billion. Some of the gap in the following year may be filled by a planned increase of $10 billion in privatization proceeds, but these – very properly – will not count in the eyes of the Gramm-Rudman Act.

Surprisingly in view of the long battle between Congress and the President over deficit reduction before Christmas, Congress may be prepared to take Mr Reagan's budget figures at face value. There could be trouble over adjustments to the Medicare budget, but with the election now clearly in their sights Congressmen do not seem to have much stomach for prolonging the war of attrition.

Markets had not expected much else from the budget and first reactions were muted – a modest fall in the bond market, some further decline in a weakening dollar. It means, however, that there is little prospect during the rest of this year of the US reducing its calls on the world's savings. The interest rates necessary to attract this money will remain relatively high with implications for rates elsewhere.

Also, the Federal government will do nothing to help rein back domestic demand and so narrow America's other deficit, on trade. In these circumstances the outlook for the dollar can hardly have improved. We may face a further bout of exchange rate instability.

Further real progress on deficit reduction will have to wait now until a new President has been installed in the White House. How much he will be able at that stage to do about 1989 is not entirely clear. The budget for 1990 will have to be judged by much harsher standards than yesterday's disappointing effort.

DISPUTES OF PROSPERITY

If employees and their unions at Ford have scored a victory over the multinational carmaker's British management, it is largely a psychological one. They have shown that Ford tried to push faster and farther towards competitive working practices than its work force wanted to go. The outcome will certainly bolster union confidence, even though union leaders misjudged their members as much as did Ford's usually highly professional negotiators.

A crucial test of the final deal will be how a mass of local negotiations over new working practices turn out in practice. Ford has been through a period of rapid and sweeping change in working practices and relaxing of traditional demarcation. It is to be hoped that employees now understand that was vital to the company's future in the marketplace and hence to their own future in work. Their unions certainly accept, at least in principle, that the process must continue as a normal part of managing the business.

If the right to negotiate and be consulted on change is treated positively, it could lead to a period of more mature co-operation. If it is seized as a lever to resist change, or to treat any proposed change as an opportunity to carve an extra pound of flesh, it will disastrously reverse the fragile recovery of the British motor industry as a whole.

It would demonstrate – what many fear is the case – that the management's drive to raise productivity depended on conditions of extreme economic stringency and had not been built in to a reformed manufacturing industry. Britain's industrial disease was, in other words, still virulent.

Even if that fear proves groundless, the price to be paid for the unions' psychological victory is likely to prove material indeed. Before the strike, union leaders stressed that the first national stoppage for a decade at Britain's largest carmaker would be disastrous. Such crocodile tears are expected in negotiation at the brink, but the warning was genuine enough.

A relatively short strike is not going to change the rest of the world's view of British manufacturing overnight. But Ford will have marked well how quickly the strike in Britain affected its plants in Europe. It showed that the strike weapon – particularly the casual instant stoppage – has no part in an integrated production system that is easily disrupted.

Ford will learn that lesson when it comes to siting future key plants: a projected new specialist high technology plant planned for Dundee was already threatened by inter-union rivalry and must now be in even greater doubt. Others may receive that unwelcome message too, particularly Japanese and American firms planning their production strategy for an integrated European market in the nineties.

Nor is there any solace to be gained from Ford's financial settlement. The financial markets were already starting to worry yesterday about the latest figures for average earnings in Britain, which show that annual earnings growth accelerated rapidly to 8.5 per cent in the last quarter of 1987.

Ford's 7 per cent basic settlements for this year and next point the way to 9 per cent earnings growth. The latest deal at Vauxhall is similar, suggesting a new but familiar pattern. Such settlements may be justified in the factories where they are earned. They cannot be justified over the economy as a whole. They will certainly continue to price many of the unemployed out of jobs. And they threaten an inflationary trend sufficient for the Chancellor to worry about the economy's ability to sustain the growth rate on which such disputes of prosperity depend.

BEYOND THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER

Even before the next and possibly final round of UN-sponsored talks on Afghanistan has opened, a formidable obstacle to a settlement is emerging. Pakistan, which has hitherto supported the united Western position in calling for the withdrawal of Soviet troops as the key to any agreement, has indicated that it will oppose any agreement that does not also provide for the orderly transfer of power to an acceptable Afghan government.

It could be argued that when Moscow appeared to change its mind about the need for agreement on an Afghan government of "national reconciliation" as a condition of a Soviet withdrawal, it anticipated precisely this difficulty. According to such an interpretation, Mr Gorbachov's promise of a date for the withdrawal was merely a manoeuvre intended to undermine the Western position and keep Soviet troops in Afghanistan indefinitely. Subsequent Soviet appeals to Pakistan not to introduce new conditions suggest, however, that Moscow's desire to withdraw is sincere.

All the same, Pakistan's concern is understandable. A Soviet withdrawal which does not leave a stable interim government in Kabul will solve few of Pakistan's existing problems and could pose several more. Unless a new government is acceptable to the majority of Afghan guerrilla groups, the number of refugees in Pakistan will continue to rise. The fighting in Afghanistan, which has been concentrated in areas close to Pakistan's north-western frontier, will continue.

If elections are held, the result might perpetuate the present regime (and with it Soviet influence in Kabul), or it might reflect the growing influence of Islamic fundamentalism from Iran. Neither outcome would be satisfactory for Pakistan. Islamabad also has a point of principle when it argues that the Soviet invasion has only exacerbated Afghanistan's centrifugal tendencies and so Moscow should be obliged to leave a measure of administrative stability behind.

Understandable though Pakistan's misgivings are, however, they provide no pretext whatever for the West to countenance the postponement of the Soviet withdrawal. One of the reasons – perhaps the only reason – why there is now a real prospect of the Red Army leaving Kabul after more than eight years is because its presence there has been consistently and single-mindedly opposed by international opinion.

The fact that Pakistan, or the West as a whole, might not like the resulting disorder or the complexion of a new Kabul government does not mean that the Soviet troops should be asked to stay on the offchance that something more satisfactory will emerge. That would only serve to make the Soviet presence appear more acceptable than at any time since the invasion and perpetuate the notion that Afghans cannot be entrusted with their own destiny.

A Soviet withdrawal holds risks for Moscow, too. Some of them – the possible emergence of a hostile regime in Kabul, instability on the southern frontier, the spread of Islamic fundamentalism – are very similar to those feared by Islamabad. But if even Mr Gorbachov has come to recognize that withdrawal is a more urgent and feasible objective than the establishment of a government of "national reconciliation", no less can be expected of Pakistan which has for so long urged a withdrawal.

Certainly, the more prosperous Western countries should try to allay some of Pakistan's fears. They should assure Islamabad, in particular, that funds will still be forthcoming to help Afghan refugees even when the Afghan problem is, in theory, solved. But now, just when the original objective – the withdrawal of Soviet troops – seems at last attainable, is no time for disunity or hesitation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Politics and power privatization

From the Chairman of the Weir Group, plc

Sir, Your excellent leader, "Players for power" (February 15) suggested that dissatisfaction with British Telecom and British Gas – both of which were privatized within an inadequate regulatory framework – has made it a political imperative for Mr Parkinson to introduce "real competition" in electricity. This conclusion seems to be neither logical nor inevitable.

Surely, the better alternative is an effective regulatory system, particularly if breaking up the generating side of the CEGB so as to provide this so-called competition is likely to have the perverse effect of raising prices. The counter-argument, that this effect could be offset by allowing the import of cheap coal, is quite irrelevant, since an undivided CEGB could have done just that years ago had Government permitted it, and could do so in the future.

In this context, incidentally, what are the balance-of-payments implications of massive long-term coal imports, and will foreign coal prices remain competitive in sterling terms?

On a quite different point, what thought has been given to the impact of privatization on the electrical equipment and power-plant industries? They are large employers and important exporters.

Altogether, the heavily leaked proposals for electricity suggest so far a lack of strict and practical analysis and a politicized compromise that may give us the worst of all worlds.

Yours faithfully,
WEIR, Chairman,
The Weir Group plc,
Cathcart, Glasgow G44 4EX.
February 16.

From the General Secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association

Sir, Your leader on Mr Parkinson's plans for privatizing electricity correctly treats the subject as the political exercise, which essentially it is, and not as anything to do with improving the quality of the service provided by the electricity supply industry at present.

Your leader only reached a point of substance at the end, when it was said that opponents of privatization "point out that the CEGB supplies domestic and commercial users with some of the cheapest electricity in the world and argues that competition will have the perverse effect of raising prices".

I had thought your leader was going to examine that argument. Instead, in a complete cop-out, it went on to say that part of Mr Parkinson's reply will be to point to cheaper coal from increased imports after privatization.

But, of course, that is no reply at all. If it is greater imports of coal that are wanted they can be ordered by the CEGB tomorrow if the Government gives the go-ahead. That may well lead to the decimation of our remaining coal industry, but that is another argument (and one which incidentally, no one seems to be bothering about). What is certain is that electricity does not have to be privatized to import coal on a larger scale.

The crucial point your leader failed even to mention is this: once it is realised that reducing the price of coal by greater recourse to the international market provides no justification for privatising electricity, what other justification is there? For what large and permanent quantifiable benefit is the efficient and vital electricity supply industry to be turned upside down for the next five or six years in the name of privatization?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LYONS,
General Secretary,
Electrical Power Engineers' Association,
Station House,
Fox Lane North,
Chertsey, Surrey.
February 16.

From Mr Sel Ghalib, FEng

Sir, It appears to be generally accepted that the only effective competition after the privatization of the electricity supply industry will be achieved by separating the national grid from the generation side and splitting this into a number of generating companies.

Accepted, that is, by most commentators except the CEGB. Their argument seems to be that it is essential to have an intimate relationship between the grid controllers and the power stations, achieved by common ownership, in order to ensure that the lights do not go out.

This belief ignores business experience in a competitive market place. Provided there are a sufficient number of generating companies with both long-term and short-term contracts covering spot pricing with the grid company, the generating companies would be most eager to sell all the electricity they can, and give the best service they can to their customer, the grid company.

This contractual relationship, which ultimately determines the survival of a contractor, is more compelling than any intimate relationship imposed on the parties by bosses at headquarters.

The number of generating companies is crucial. Only two would be worse than a monopoly. A single company would be recognised for what it is, but with two there would be a pretence of competition with a high probability of collusion. They would adopt a cavalier attitude to the grid company.

There should be at least four. Until recently, the CEGB's power stations were grouped into five regions, with their own headquarters, and as a majority of their staff are still located in their own offices, five would be the logical number of generating companies, causing minimal disturbance to the staff who would be required to run the new companies.

However, it is very important that the power stations owned by each company should be geographically distributed, and not grouped as in the old regions. Such a structure would ensure not only "merit order" utilisation of the generating units based on quoted spot prices, but would also ensure some competition when the units have to be brought in out of "merit order" for the technical security of the grid system.

Yours faithfully,
SEL GHALIB (Managing Director, The Nuclear Power Group Ltd, 1966-75),
238 Washway Road,
Sale, Cheshire.
February 15.

Indian dowries

From Dr Werner F. Menski

Sir, Kuldip Nayar's report from India (February 8) regrettably creates the impression that a dowry is an essential part of an arranged marriage in India, thereby giving this practice an aura of legitimacy that it clearly does not have.

Since dowry is not, as Nayar's article shows, a problem affecting only poor illiterate people, but rather a game played by the leaders of society, the educated middle class, with their rising expectations, are the ones that suffer most. The same applies in Britain, though this will be denied.

Yours sincerely,
WERNER MENSKI,
School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, WC1.

Ultra vires?

From Mr John M. Gittens

Sir, "The Government will announce today that it is to make the Prevention of Terrorism Act permanent" (front page report, today). Quite apart from the particular point at issue, the Government has no power to do any such thing. It is only Parliament that could take this step. Remember 1688.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. GITTENS,
5 Jireh Court,
Perrymount Road,
Haywards Heath, Sussex.
February 16.

Dashed nuisance

From Mr Douglas Lowndes

Sir, Mr Eric Revell's bank's computer (February 9) is not very articulate compared with my local cash dispenser. When I inadvertently put my AA membership card in the slot recently, the response on the screen was **+!!xx££&*!fF.

Neither the bank nor the AA has been able to interpret this for me. Should I change my bank or join the RAC?

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS LOWNDES,
1 Colville Court,
Great Missenden,
Buckinghamshire.

Preparing minds

From Mr R. Aylieff

Sir, Today's article, "What do they really know?" (February 16), tends to perpetuate the misconception that education and knowledge are synonymous. There is a difference between education and knowledge. Education is systematic instruction aimed at the development of an intellectual infrastructure – and character. Such an infrastructure provides a capacity for reasoning and a faculty for understanding and to this one can add knowledge. Knowledge is a person's range of received information.

People are the primary resource of a nation, a company; an organisation, because it is people who produce things, discover things, invent things and get things organised. These initiatives require a prepared mind. The function of education is to prepare the mind.

Yours faithfully,
ROY AYLIEFF,
Medlar Place,
Steep,
Petersfield, Hampshire.
February 16.

Bags of garbage

From Commander John Lees, RN (retd)

Sir, In a recent, animated, domestic debate on the wisdom of hoarding plastic bags, I based my argument against retention on the numbers involved. To prove my point, a survey over a fortnight revealed that, in our household of two frugal people, no fewer than 40 bags per week could be disposed of (or hoarded).

Multiplied by however many other families – perhaps less frugal than ours, there are in the land, or indeed the world – and the numbers become more than astronomical.

Isn't it time we did something?

Yours despairingly,
JOHN LEES,
Dashwoods House,
Bicknoller,
Taunton, Somerset.
February 10.

Talks to iron out court troubles

From the President of the Association of Chief Police Officers

Sir, It is inevitable that when change as radical and on the scale of the new Crown Prosecution Service is made there will be teething troubles on both sides ("Police delays are bedevilling court services, says DPP", February 16). The important thing is to identify those problems and to tackle them constructively.

The new system has meant in many cases a revision of existing police administration and staffing arrangements. There are new demands on the way files need to be assembled and presented. The offices of the CPS are now remote from police stations, which has added to the problem of communication and has caused some delay in the handling of paperwork.

All these things are now being sorted out, but it will take time and patience. The problem has been exacerbated by acute shortage of staff. The DPP has recently been given the go-ahead to increase his staff by 1,000.

Liaison between the DPP and the police service at senior level is excellent. Mr Green, the DPP, and his senior advisers have been holding informal meetings with the chairmen and secretaries of the major committees of the Association of Chief Police Officers. The DPP is shortly to join the ACPO and the leaders of the Superintendents' Association and Police Federation at one of our regular joint liaison meetings to discuss the issue.

The ACPO has always held the view that the CPS is under-staffed and under-resourced. It will also be faced with the problems of providing a sound career structure which will need a lot of very careful thought if the service is to provide the level of excellence previously achieved by police in the prosecutions field. My association is anxious to support the CPS.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER BIRCH (Chief Constable of Sussex),
Police Headquarters,
Malling House,
Lewes, East Sussex.
February 17.

Medical research

From Professor P. R. F. Bell

Sir, Recent letters about the underfunding of the health service have rightly exposed how seriously the service is now affected at all levels. As your readers will know, the Government has also been making cuts in higher education by reducing university funding, which has led to a progressive decline in the university system similar to that seen in the hospitals.

Academic departments of medicine and surgery in this country have for years been the meeting ground for university and health service activities and as a result are now under pressure on two fronts. The obvious loser is medical research, which suffers from poor funding from the Medical Research Council and other grant-giving bodies (also being cut) and reduced university finance. In addition, because of shortcomings in the NHS, extra clinical commitments have to be met by academics, leaving less time for research.

Many of the recent advances in patient care such as organ transplantation started in academic departments of medicine and surgery and were later transferred to the health service to the benefit of patients. This cannot continue with the present policies.

Yours faithfully,
P.R.F. BELL (President, Surgical Research Society),
Department of Surgery,
Clinical Sciences Building,
Leicester Royal Infirmary,
Leicester.
February 3.

UN security

From Mr Henry W. Rothschild

Sir, There is a lot of acrimonious discussion on the subject of the Austrian President, Dr Waldheim, when it is obvious that the Austrians have every right to choose their own president, without hindrance from other countries.

It seems to me much more serious that this personality was allowed to be Secretary General to the United Nations for two terms. Where were the safeguards and investigations then? Are we sure that people with similar blemished records, not necessarily as ex-Nazis, but extremists of many persuasions will not in future be able to occupy positions of international standing? Should there not be a screening process before admitting people to high protected office?

Yours faithfully,
HENRY W. ROTHSCHILD,
24 Wilberforce Road,
Cambridge.
February 14.

Clergy and morals

From Mr H. Massey

Sir, I do not seek to prolong personal feuding; nor do I seek to defend the accuracy of Mr Gummer's interpretation (report, February 9) of the Archbishop of York's speech in the House of Lords on clause 28 of the Local Government Bill.

However, like Mr Gummer, I, too, fail to grasp the "profound moral point" which Dr Habgood (February 12) sees in the "wisdom of allowing central government to move in the direction of controlling ideas by means of legislation".

I assume that, if that is his real concern, he must at the least question the basis of anti-racist, anti-sexist, and much other recent legislation.

Yours faithfully,
H. MASSEY,
49 Standlake Avenue,
Castle Bromwich,
Birmingham.
February 12.

Times past

From Mr Christopher Apps

Sir, Following the 20 per cent increase in cost this week I note, from my collection of *Times* mugs, that in January, 1785, the paper cost 2½d; in June, 1815, 6½d; in August, 1844, 5d; and in May, 1926, 2d. Maybe Lord Byron was right when he wrote:

The 'good old times' – all times
when old are good –
Are gone. (*The Age of Bronze*).

Yours etc,
C. APPS,
The Old Granary, High Street,
Barcombe, Nr Lewes,
East Sussex.
February 16.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 19 1948

Forty years ago some South American countries were loud in their claims to territory in the Antarctic

ARGENTINA AND ANTARCTIC

WARSHIPS DEPART FOR EXERCISES

CHILEAN BASE IN GRAHAMLAND

From Our Own Correspondent

BUENOS AIRES, Feb 18

A task force of the Argentine ocean navy under the command of Vice-Admiral Juan M. Carranza, comprising two cruisers – the Veinticinco de Mayo and the Almirante Brown – six destroyers, and various auxilliary vessels, sailed today from the Bay of Ushuaia, in Tierra del Fuego, bound for manoeuvres in the Antarctic regions near the South Shetlands and Grahamland, where Argentina and Chile are jointly disputing British sovereignty with all possible ostentation and defiance.

The Argentine flagship Veinticinco de Mayo broadcast a message to the Argentine people from Ushuaia last night explaining the significance of the manoeuvres and their national importance, and proclaiming Argentine sovereignty in the Antarctic. The announcer added that further broadcasts on the same subject would soon be made by an Argentine naval detachment on Deception Island.

The Chilean President, Dr Gonzalez Videla, arrived yesterday in the naval transport President Pintos at the Chilean Antarctic base on Greenwich Island, in the British-owed South Shetlands. The base was renamed by the Chilean expedition last year Puerto Soberania in Soberania Bay (called Discovery Bay by the British). Dr Gonzalez Videla is to inaugurate officially the military post, called Bernardo O'Higgins after the hero of Chilean independence, and is to review the garrison of Puerto Soberania. The Presidential ship was met off Greenwich Island by a warship and seaplane with a base in Discovery Bay. It is announced that the President proposes to visit to-day Grahamland, renamed by the Chileans Tierra de O'Higgins, where he will inaugurate a second Chilean Antarctic military base on the "Gonzalez Videla coast".

"CHILEAN SOIL"

Soon after his arrival at Puerto Soberania, the Chilean President broadcast a message to the Chilean people saying: "Under the strange solitude and silence of these polar islands we feel the intimate and patriotic satisfaction of treading Chilean soil occupied by our gallant soldiers, sailors and airmen." The President went on to say that the glorious Chilean traditions had been preserved with valour and self-sacrifice in the inhospitable Antarctic which belonged to the American continent. Chile was defending the destiny of the Americas in the peaceful task of discovering wealth hidden from explorers and geographers, especially scientists.

The Chilean President implicitly invoked against Britain the inter-American defence pacts, referring to "worn out imperialisms which threatened to rob Chile and the rest of the Americas of their lands by aggression and armed violence," adding that the Americas were now armed and united against aggression from a Power outside the American continent. The President left no doubt that he was referring to Great Britain when he mentioned the "extra-continental power which, frightened by Europe in convulsions, sought to trample on the principles of the United Nations and the international law of the Americas." Such disturbers of the peace and safety of peoples should think twice before contemplating aggression against all the Americas.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 18: His Excellency Monsieur Lamine Keita was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Mali to the Court of St James's.

Madame Keita had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Mr Alan Munro (Deputy Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr A.J. Coles was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Commonwealth of Australia.

Mrs Coles had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Mr Soo Soobiah was received in audience by The Queen upon his appointment as High Commissioner for Mauritius in London.

Mrs Soobiah had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Lieutenant-Colonel George West had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

The Duchess of York this morning visited Harefield Hospital, Harefield, and opened the Intensive Care Unit.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London (Field Marshal the Lord Bramall).

Mrs John Floyd was in attendance.

The Queen was represented by General Sir David Mostyn (Aide-de-Camp General to Her Majesty) at the Memorial Service for General Sir Charles Jones (formerly Aide-de-Camp General to The Queen) which was held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, this morning.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by General Sir Robert Ford.

The Queen was represented by Mr Richard Thornton (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Surrey) at the Funeral of Sir John Gutch (formerly High Commissioner for the Western Pacific) which was held in St Lawrence's Church, Seale, this afternoon.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 18: A contingent from The Royal Anglian Regiment today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother to mark the 50th Anniversary of Her Majesty becoming Honorary Colonel of the Hertfordshire Regiment.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother visited Lloyd's this evening and switched on the illuminations to launch the Tercentenary Year.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy, Sir Martin Gilliat and Captain Niall Hall were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 18: The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, this morning visited the Nottingham Branch of Action Resource Centre, Seventh Floor, City House, Maid Marion Way, Nottingham.

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a presentation and met members of the Sheffield Economic Regeneration Committee at Sheffield Town Hall.

The Prince of Wales later visited the Lyceum Theatre and the Orchard Square Development, Sheffield.

Subsequently His Royal Highness, President, Business in the Community, met representatives of the Sheffield Enterprise Agency and other organisations to consider new development projects, at the Cutlers Hall.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Royal Jubilee and Prince's Trusts and the Prince's Youth Business Trust, afterwards met recipients of grants from the two Trusts.

In the evening His Royal Highness attended Opera North's performance of "Carmen" in aid of the Lyceum Theatre restoration fund, at the City Hall, Sheffield.

The Prince of Wales, attended by the Hon Rupert Fairfax, Major Christopher Lavender and Mr Philip Mackie, travelled in the Royal Train.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, the National Hospitals for Nervous Diseases, this morning opened the new X-ray Department at the National Hospital, Queen's Square, London WC1.

Her Royal Highness later planted a tree, in connection with The Prince of Wales Royal Parks Tree appeal, in Kensington Gardens, London W8.

Mrs Max Pike and Commander Richard Aylard, RN were in attendance.

The Prince of Wales was represented by Major General R.C. Keightley at the Memorial Service for General Sir Charles Jones which was held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, this morning.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 18: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as President, *this morning opened the* new Junior School at the North London Collegiate School, Canons, Edgware, Middlesex.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Inner London Probation Service, this morning visited HM Prison Wormwood Scrubs, Du Cane Road, London W12 and in the afternoon visited the Day Training Centre, 123 Grove Park, London SE5.

Lt Col Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST. JAMES'S PALACE
February 18: The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton at the Memorial Service for General Sir Charles Jones which was held in The Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, this morning.

The Duchess of Kent this afternoon visited the Lambeth Community Care Centre, London SE11 and the Headquarters of the London Ambulance Service, London SE1.

Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
February 18: Princess Alexandra was represented by Major Peter Clarke at the Memorial Service for General Sir Charles Jones which was held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, this morning.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Mark Baring will be held at St Paul's Church, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge, on Tuesday, March 22, 1988 at noon.

A memorial service for Charles John Hamson, Emeritus Professor of Comparative Law, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, will be held in the College Chapel at 2.15pm on Saturday, March 5, 1988.

Chigwell School

Mr B.J. Wilson will be retiring from the Headmastership of Chigwell School at the end of the Summer Term 1989.

Service Dinner

Royal Naval College, Greenwich
Professor J.R.A. Lakey, Director of the Department of Nuclear Science and Technology at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, presided at a dinner and reception held last night at the college to mark the conferment of degrees in nuclear reactor technology and radiological protection on students of his department. Admiral Sir John Woodward, Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command, also spoke and Admiral Sir Richard Fitch, Second Sea Lord and Admiral President of the College, attended.

Business success

A lesson from John McEnroe

By John Spicer
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Life at the top in business and commerce is now so tough and competitive that company directors and high-level managers are turning to "executive coaches" to put them ahead of their rivals.

Just as Bjorn Borg, Martina Navratilova and John McEnroe became world beaters with the help and guidance of sporting mentors, company executives are now able to turn to their own personal coach when things get really tough.

Ben Cannon is an executive coach; one of only a handful in this country or America. "These days the stakes are higher, the game is faster and life at the top is shorter if you can't stay with the competition. And I am talking about the business world, not sport", he says.

According to Mr Cannon, life at the top is lonely. Executives with problems dare not go to people under them for help in case it is seen as weakness. They dare not go to the very top of the company in case questions are raised about their competence.

Mr Cannon, who is aged 27, was born in London and educated at York University. After university he got interested in tennis coaching while playing at professional level and realized that the concept of the "inner game" could be applied just as much to business as to sport.

The inner game was developed at Berkeley in California to help tennis players succeed by developing their mental skills. It takes for granted that ability is there. As Mr Cannon puts it: "Lennart Bergelin, the man behind Bjorn Borg, did not have to tell Borg where to put his feet. It was just a matter of fine tuning. It is like a pilot bringing a plane in to land. He trims the flaps along the wings with very minor adjustments. Just those little alterations that come with experience and all goes smoothly".

Mr Cannon likes to spend a minimum of six months on each client. "The people who come to me are successful, but they have realised that things are getting away from them. The fact they have realised it and have made an effort to come to someone like me is, perhaps, half the battle", he says.

"Take the senior bank executive who has worked his way to the top over 30 years with the one company, which is suddenly involved in a merger. Into the boardroom come young American whizz-kids in their Mafia-style suits. He suddenly realises he cannot even communicate with them.

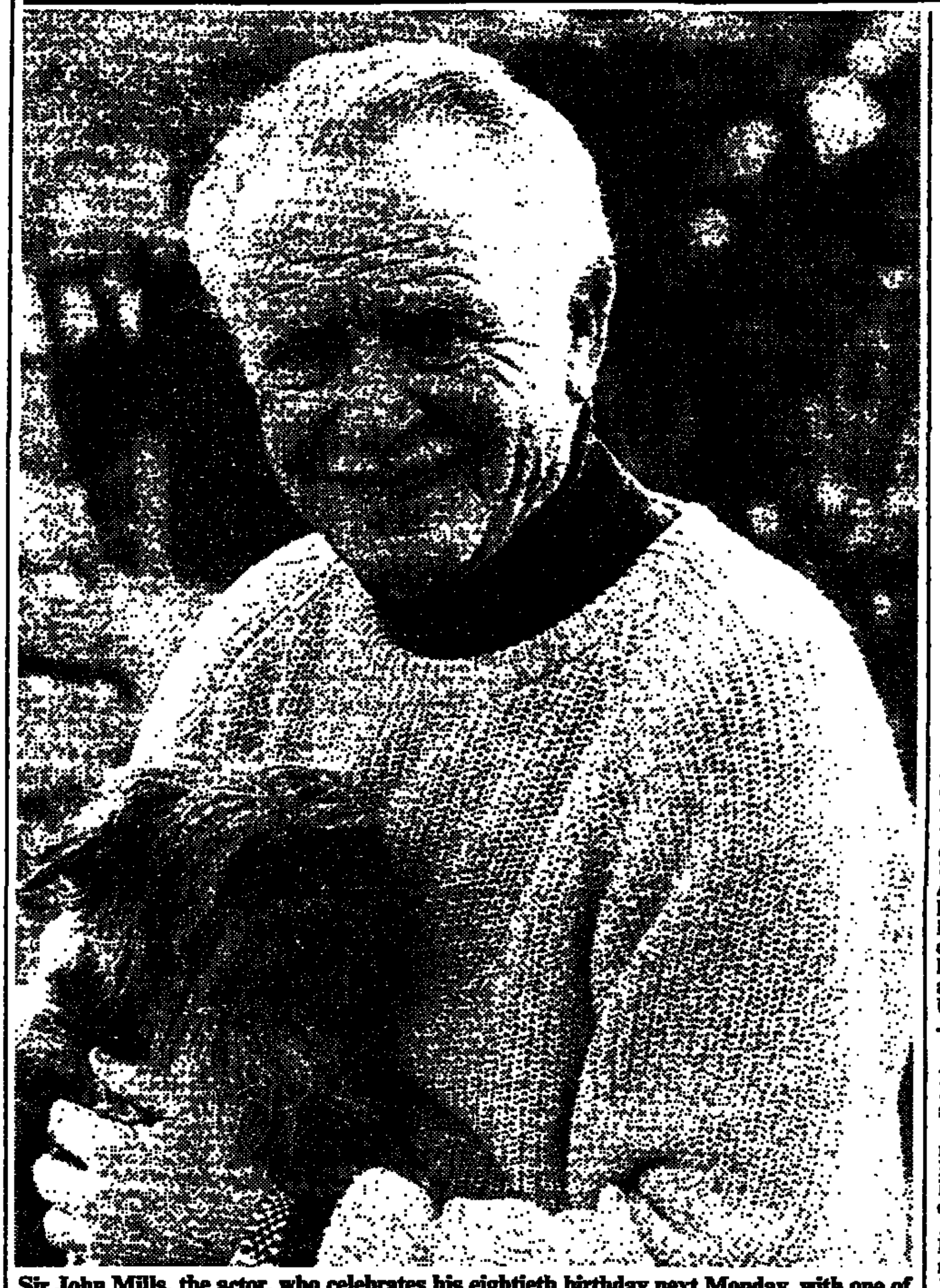
"I know and he knows that he is right on top of his job. He has enormous experience and indeed respect. Suddenly he's faced with a new culture, his new colleagues expect different things from him.

"Similarly, I have been working with a television executive responsible for personnel and public relations. His job began in a quiet way, but over the years his responsibilities have increased to such a degree that he is under constant demand and pressure. His worry is keeping the growth in hand and on top of the job. He is skillful, knows his business, but it is all a matter of keeping things in perspective".

To tackle these problems, Mr Cannon starts with a list of do's and don'ts he draws up with his client. Sometimes the list runs into scores of items.

Mr Cannon works in association with Saxton Bampfylde International, a high-power management consultancy group. Anthony Saxton, one of the founders, tells of the day Mr Cannon "coached" him in the ways of making life at home more sweet. "My wife was complaining I was too busy to take her out any more", he said, "and if I did promise a meal or the theatre I invariably had to cancel it at the last moment because of pressure of work. Along came Ben and said that if business appointments were so important, turn the theatre or dinner date into a business appointment. With that perfectly simple piece of advice, I now put outings with my wife in the appointments book and tell my secretary I have a prior engagement if something crops up. As a result of a smoother home life, my business life is better, too".

It is the good businessman, like the good sportsman, who gets better after the right sort of coaching, Mr Cannon says. "It is all to do with making people think about what they do. Once I make them able to recognise the difficulties, my job is nearly done", he said.



Sir John Mills, the actor, who celebrates his eightieth birthday next Monday, with one of his dogs in the garden of the cottage in Denham, Suffolk, where he and his wife Mary live.

Dinners

Association of Consulting Engineers
Mr K.H. Best, Chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Hilton International hotel London to mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the association's incorporation. Sir Francis Tombs, Chairman of the Engineering Council, and Sir Robert Scholey, Chairman of the British Steel Corporation, also spoke. The guests included:

The Earl of Limerick, Lord Lloyd of Kilgerran, QC, Lord Hacking, Sir Norman Payne, Sir John Cassels, Sir Alan Bailey, Mr Peter Bottomley, MP, Mr S-E Frick-Meijer and Mr J Vandekerckhove.

***Association of Corporate* Treasurers**
Mr Brian Carte, President of the Association of Corporate Treasurers, was host at a dinner held last night at Merchant Taylors' Hall after Sir Jeremy Morse addressed a meeting of the association.

Reform Club
Mr Malcolm Gee presided at a dinner of the Economics Group of the Reform Club held last night at the club. Dr John Rae also spoke.

Republicans Abroad UK
Mr David Mellor, QC, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual Lincoln's Day dinner of Republicans Abroad UK, the United Kingdom arm of the *American Republican* party, held on February 12 at the Marriott Hotel. Mr James Fees, chairman Worldwide, Mr William Curran, chairman Europe, and Mr John Wood, chairman UK, received the guests.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nicolaus Copernicus, astronomer, Torún, Poland, 1473; David Garrick, actor-manager, Hereford, 1717; Luigi Boccherini, composer, Lucca, Italy, 1743; Sir Roderick Murchison, Tarradale, Highland, 1792; Adelina Patti, soprano, Madrid, 1843; Svante Arrhenius, chemist, Nobel laureate, 1903, Vik, Sweden, 1859; Sven Hedin, explorer in Asia, Stockholm, 1865; Alvaro Obregón, revolutionary, president of Mexico 1920-24, 1928, Alamos, Mexico, 1880; Merle Oberon, actress, Bombay, 1911.

DEATHS: Elizabeth Carter, Greek scholar, London, 1806; George Büchner, dramatist, Zurich, 1837; Blondin, (Jean-François Gravelet), tightrope walker, London, 1897; Ernst Mach, physicist, Haar, Germany, 1916; André Gide, writer, Nobel laureate 1947; Paris, 1951; Knut Hamsun, novelist, Nobel laureate 1920, Grimstad, Norway, 1952; John Grierson, documentary film director, Bath, 1972.

Order of St John

The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior of the Order of St John, has approved the appointments of Lord Vestey as Chancellor, Lord Westbury as Bailiff of Egle and Professor A R Mellows as Registrar.

Reception

Guild of Freemen of the City of London
General Sir Peter Whiteley, Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, and Lady Whiteley held a reception yesterday evening at the Banqueting House, Whitehall.

Birthdays today

Mr Peter Baldwin, director of Radio, IBA, 61; Sir John Collyear, former chairman, AE, 61; the Rev Dr G. Henton Davies, former principal of Regent's Park College, Oxford, 82; Lord Forbes, 70; Mr John Freeman, former MP, diplomat and chairman, London Weekend Television, 73; Lord Henniker, 72; the Right Rev R.S. Hook, former Bishop of Bradford, 71; Miss Hana Mandlikova, tennis player, 26; Professor Bernard Meadows, sculptor, 73; Sir John Nicholson, former Lord Lieutenant, Isle of Wight, 77; Mrs Frances Perry, horticulturist, 81; Sir Daniel Pettit, former chairman, National Freight Corporation, 73; Mrs Erin Pizzey, founder of first shelter for battered wives, 49; Mr Brian Tesler, chairman, London Weekend Television, 59.

The Duke of York celebrates his birthday today.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will open the Guards Museum at Wellington Barracks at 11.30.

The *Prince* of Wales, President of Business in the Community, will visit Allenheads Village, Northumberland, at 10.30; the Prince of Wales, as Patron of Community Venture, will visit the Venture in Sunderland at 1.00; and will open Express Engineering's new factory at Kingsway North, Team Valley Trading Estate, Newcastle upon Tyne, at 2.50.

The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will open British *Hartford-Fairmont's new factory* and offices at Milton Park, Oxfordshire, at 11.30; and will visit Solid State Logic, Begbroke, Oxfordshire, at 2.00.

Poulters' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Poulters' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr P Kemp; Upper Warden, Mr A W Scott; Renter Warden, Mr H R Braithwaite.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.A. Dixon
and Miss C.M. Willy
The engagement is announced between Patrick, youngest son of the Hon Robin Dixon, of Ballyclare, Co Antrim, and the Hon Mrs Rona Dixon, of Curdridge, Hampshire, and Catharine, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Theo Willy, of South Petherton, Somerset.

Mr H.P. Haig
and Miss J.F. Maitland
The engagement is announced between Hugo Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Haig, of Scaniport, Inverness, and Janey, only daughter of the late Major Sir Alexander Maitland, Bt, and of Lavender Lady Maitland, of Burnside, Forfar, Angus.

Mr R.J. Sheen
and Mrs V.H.M. Gaunt
The engagement is announced between Roderick, youngest son of the Hon Sir Barry Sheen and the late Lady (Diane) Sheen, of Wimbledon, and Victoria, elder daughter of the late Mr Philip Spink and Mrs Philip Spink, of Lamberhurst, Kent.

Count Thomas Ahlefeldt-Laurvig-Lehn
and Miss E.H. Fraser-Mackenzie
The engagement is announced between Thomas, son of Count Ahlefeldt-Laurvig-Lehn and the late Countess Ahlefeldt-Laurvig-Lehn, of Hvidkilde, Svendborg, Denmark, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.P. Fraser-Mackenzie, of Lone Cow Estate, Mutoroshanga, Zimbabwe.

Mr R.J. Cohen
and Miss A.F. Stewart
The engagement is announced between Ralph, son of Mr and Mrs Desmond Cohen, of Hale Barns, Cheshire, and Antonia, younger daughter of Mrs Gillian Stewart, of Hyndland, Glasgow.

Mr P.W.F. Letcher
and Miss E.K. Webb
The engagement is announced between Peregine, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. Peter Letcher, of Martin, Hampshire, and Elaine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Webb, of Lymington, Hampshire.

Mr I.C.A. MacKichan
and Miss J.M.D. Bracey-Gibbon
The engagement is announced between Ian, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alan MacKichan, of Haileybury, Hertfordshire, and Jessica, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Bracey-Gibbon, of Claygate, Surrey.

Mr J.P. Melville-Thomas
and Miss J.E. Bowdler
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Dr and Mrs Graham Melville-Thomas, of Tal-y-Coed Court, near Monmouth, Gwent, and Jane, elder daughter of the late Rev R.E.H. Bowdler and of Mrs Bowdler, of 10 Marston Ferry Road, Oxford.

Mr A.M. Coxon
and Dr F.A. Muncey
The engagement is announced between Andrew Michael, only son of Commander and Mrs C.R.J. Coxon, of Alverstoke, Hampshire, and Felicity Anne, only daughter of Dr and Mrs K. Muncey, of Linton, Cambridge.

Captain J.R. Cunliffe
and Miss M.D. Cochran
The engagement is announced between James Robert Cunliffe, *The Royal Green Jackets*, son of Mr and Mrs D.F. Cunliffe, of Ashtead, Surrey, and Michelle Diana, youngest daughter of Mr T.M. Cochran, of Harare, and Mrs Peter van Breda, of New Forest Farm, Karoi, Zimbabwe.

Mr E.P.A. Kay
and Miss M.Y. Davidson
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Alan Kay, and Maxine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Manny Davidson, both of London, NW3.

Mr A. Lane
and Miss H.E. Bromley
The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of Mr and Mrs Derek Lane, of Birmingham and Sandbach, Cheshire, and Helen Elizabeth, second daughter of Judge Bromley, QC, and Mrs Bromley, of Southgate, London.

Mr P. Layton
and Miss M.C. Banks
The engagement is announced between Peter, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Thomas, of Stable Farm, Collipriest, Tiverton, Devon, and Marcia Collins, youngest daughter of Mr David C. Banks and the late Jananne Brooks Banks, of Laguna Niguel, California. The marriage will take place on March 20, 1988, in Claremont, California, at the home of the bride's aunt and uncle, Mr and Mrs E. Howard Brooks. The couple will live in Ealing after the ceremony.

Mr J.C. Payne
and Miss H.A. Orr
The engagement is announced between Julian, eldest son of Dr and Mrs L.N. Payne, of Bluntisham, Cambridgeshire, and Hilary, fourth daughter of Dr and Mrs J.H. Orr, of Beaminster, Dorset.

Marriage

Mr T. Sharpe
and Miss P.M. Rogers
The marriage took place in London on Tuesday, February 16, 1988, between Mr Thomas Sharpe and Miss Phillis Rogers.

Luncheons

Baltic Exchange
The Chairman of the Baltic Exchange, Mr David Frame, and the Board of Directors gave a luncheon on Wednesday in the Queen's Room of the Baltic Exchange in honour of the Ambassador of The Netherlands, Mr Hans Jonkman, accompanied by Mr Roelof R. Smit, Minister-Plenipotentiary and Head of the Economic Department. The other guests included:

Mr P B Dymond, Mr R.J. van der Eb, Mr A A Halsteeg, Mr R B van de Wetering de Rooij and Mr W Van Weelde.

Royal Society of Chemistry
Mr Robin Jackson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, was the principal guest at a luncheon yesterday given by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. Professor J.H. Purnell, Honorary Treasurer of the RSC, and Professor of Chemistry at University College, Swansea, was the host.

Others present were:
Dr Michael Clark, MP, Mr P Wardle (Private Secretary to Mr Jackson), Professor J M Ward (President-elect of the RSC), Professor J I G Cadogan (director of research, BP), Dr A D Ashmore (education officer, RSC), Dr D Booth (head, Department of Chemical and Life Sciences, Newcastle Polytechnic), Dr J S Gow (secretary general, RSC), Dr J I Hoppe (head, Department of Science, Mid Kent College of Higher and Further Education), Professor A H Jackson (Professor of Organic Chemistry, University College, Cardiff), Dr J H Peet (Principal Lecturer in Chemistry, Guildford County College of Technology) and Professor F G A Stone (head, Department of Inorganic Chemistry, Bristol University).

Memorial Service

General Sir Charles Jones
The Queen was represented by General Sir David Mostyn and the Duke of Edinburgh by General Sir Robert Ford at a service of thanksgiving for the life of General Sir Charles Jones held yesterday in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. The Prince of Wales was represented by Major-General Richard Keightley, the Duke and Duchess of Kent by Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton and Princess Alexandra by Major Peter Clarke.

The Rev A.D. Bartlett officiated, assisted by the Rev E.W. Evans. Major-General C.E.W. Jones, son, read the lesson and General Sir Hugh Beach gave an address. Others present included:

Lady Jones (widow), Mr and Mrs N P Jones (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs C E W Jones (daughter-in-law), Mr Hume Jones, Mrs Jemima Jones, Miss Felicity Jones, Miss Lucy Jones and Benjamin Jones (grandchildren), Sir Edward and Lady Jones (brother and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs John Herivel (brother-in-law and sister), Mr and Mrs Hume Wallace (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs Graham Jones, Mr Hume Jones, Mr and Mrs Peter Jones, Mr Hume Jones, Mr Edward Jones, Mr and Mrs Charles Jones, Miss S Herivel, Miss M Herivel, Mr and Mrs Gary Blanchard, Mr William Blanchard, Miss Flora Jones, Mr and Mrs R Leschallas, Mr A G P Leschallas, Mrs J R P Leschallas, Colonel N Christie.

Brigadier Viscount Rochdale, Aileen Viscountess Slim, Lord and Lady Maclean, Lord and Lady Abercon-way, Lord Grimthorpe, Lord and Lady Brassey of Apethorpe, Mr Julian Amery, MP, Lady Dora Pink, Captain the Hon A D Leslie Melville, Lady Duntze, Margaret Lady Roberts, Admiral Sir Charles Madden, Brigadier Sir Mark and Lady Henniker, Sir Brian Warren, Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs, General Sir George and Lady Cooper, General Sir Charles Richardson (Order of the Bath) and Lady Richardson, General Sir Edward Burgess (Royal British Legion) and Lady Burgess, General Sir Roland Guy (Governor of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea) and Lady Guy, General Sir Charles and Lady Harington, General Sir Timothy Morony (Master Gunner, St James's Park), General Sir Dudley Ward, General Sir Peter and Lady Whiteley, General Sir Richard Worsley, General Sir Geoffrey Musson, General Sir Reginald Hewetson, General Sir Patrick and Lady Howard-Dobson, General Sir Peter and Lady Hunt, General Sir Brian Kenny, General Sir Michael and Lady Gow, General Sir Kenneth Darling, Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis and Lady Barnett, Air Chief Marshal Sir Kenneth Cross, Air Chief Marshal Sir Christopher and Lady Foxley-Norris, Vice-Admiral Sir Ian and Lady Hogg, Lieutenant-General Sir John and Lady Stibbon, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry and Lady Leask, Lieutenant-General Sir Patrick Palmer, Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, Lieutenant-General Sir Edward and Lady Howard Vyse, Major-General Sir Nigel Tapp, Major-General Sir John and Lady Bates, Major-General Sir Philip Ward, Brigadier Sir Henry and Lady Lee, Colonel Sir Henry and Lady Clowes, Colonel Sir Piers Bengough, Lady Beach, Lady Ford, Lady West, Lady Templer, Sir Brian and Lady Batsford, Sir Peter and Lady Daniell, Sir Arthur Drew, Sir Richard Way, Sir Michael Wilford, Sir John and Lady Wilson.

Major-Generals H M Liardet (representing the Colonels Commandant, Royal Tank Regiment), M Matthews, J R Robertson, O Mc C Roome, P G Brooking, J H Page, J D Lunt, E M Mackay, E G Willmott, M St J Oswald, C B Pollard, C J Popham, C W B Purdon, P A Downward and H E M L Garrett; Major-General H R B Foote, VC, and Mrs Foote, Major-General and Mrs D Rice, Major-General and Mrs G B Sinclair, Major-General and Mrs M E Tickell, Major-General and Mrs G F Upjohn, Major-General and Mrs J H S Bowring, Major-General and Mrs C P Campbell, Major-General and Mrs R J G Morrison, Major-General and Mrs C J Rougier, Major-General and Mrs A R G Mullens, Major-General and Mrs C W Woods, Major-General J H S Majury (Indian Army Association) and Mrs Majury, Major-General and Mrs R L Peck, Major-General and Mrs J C Woollett, Major-General and Mrs A E Younger, Major-General and Mrs R L Clutterbuck, Major-General and Mrs T N S Wheeler.

The Very Rev Dr J and Mrs Fraser McLuskey, the Ven J R Youens, Judge Anthony Babington, Brigadier M N S McCord (Colonel, The Royal Irish Rangers), Lieutenant-Colonel G R Brooking (Burma Star Association), Mr D Stephen (Royal Soldiers Daughters' School), the Rev P A Rogers (Portora Royal School) and representatives of Rye Golf Club.

OBITUARY

MADELEINE BINGHAM

Biographer of theatrical personalities

Madeleine Bingham (Lady Clanmorris), the biographer, who died on February 16, at the age of 76, was known especially for her searching work on theatre subjects, though she had a number of interests and wrote on them with evocative craft.

Born on February 1, 1912, at Sutton, Surrey, she was the eldest child, Madeleine Mary, of Clement Ebel, of the West End decorators, Trollopes. From childhood she had a remarkable memory, and during the war she worked for MI5 at Blenheim Palace.

In 1934 she had married John Bingham, the crime writer (who succeeded in 1960 to the title of Lord Clanmorris).

Her books included an expert portrait of Sheridan; *Masks and Faces*, which dealt with Sir John Vanbrugh; *Henry Irving and the Victorian Theatre*; *The Great Lover* (on Beerbohm Tree); and other works away from the theatre, such as *Princess Lieven*, *Scotland Under Mary Stuart*; an admirable work on Kew.

An autobiography, *Peers and Plebs*, which told the joint story of her husband's family and of her own, was published in 1976. It is a witty and entertaining work among whose characters is an eccentric and tireless aunt Effie, who sued the War Office (in vain) in support of her claim to have invented the tank while in a psychic trance.

Madeleine Bingham was also the authoress of *The Man from the Ministry*, a comedy which, after its first production by the Services Sunday Society in the summer of 1946, ran later that year (its première was on Christmas Eve at the Comedy Theatre) and in 1947 for 221 performances. In the West End cast were Clifford Mollison, Beryl Mason, and Charles Lefeaux.

She married in 1934 and had a son, and a daughter — Charlotte Bingham, the author and dramatist, who wrote *Coronet Among the Weeds*.

MR HAROLD BRAUND

Mr Harold Braund, MBE, MC, who died in New South Wales on February 18, was a determined and courageous man whose entire war was spent in the forebidding hills of northern Burma in combat with the Japanese. He was 74.

Braund was born in Ceylon, where his father was a tea taster and tea buyer with the Calcutta Tea Exchange.

The family came home to Guildford, in Surrey, and Braund and his brother were educated at Eastbourne College. On leaving school he joined Steel Bros. Ltd., Eastern traders in oil, rice, cement, and timber. He went out to Burma with the company in 1934, to the oilfields in the north of the country.

When war came and the Japanese invaded Burma Braund fled to the Chin Hills where he spent the war in command of a unit of Chin Levies, a small and isolated fighting band. His integrity won the hearts of the tribesmen.

He had to learn Burmese and acquired a deep understanding of the ways of the indigenous people. During those years he had to live for long periods in remote places and foul climates, moving camp all the time. For his war service he was awarded the Military Cross.

After the war he went back to Steel Bros and was seconded to Pakistan with Attock Oil, where he was general manager of the oil field at Rawal Pindi.

He retired from that in the mid-1960s and decided to move to Australia, where he lived for the rest of his days, first in Melbourne — where he took a job as bursar of a large boys' school — and then at Coffs Harbour, where he died after a long illness.

About twenty years ago he wrote a history for Steel Bros on the occasion of the company's centenary. More recently, in 1973, he published *Distinctly I Remember*, recalling his years in the East.

Harold Braund's faith lay in the Church of England, and it meant much to him. He is survived by his wife, Maxine, and by their son (a doctor in Adelaide) and daughter.

AL COHN

Al Cohn, American jazz saxophonist and arranger, whose public success never quite equalled his reputation among his peers, died in Pennsylvania on February 15, at the age of 62.

Alvin Gilbert Cohn was born in Brooklyn on November 24, 1925, and studied clarinet and piano before turning to the tenor saxophone.

He served his apprenticeship in the mid-1940s, just as the big-band era was on the wane. Service with Joe Marsala, Georgie Auld, Alvino Rey, and Buddy Rich was followed, in 1948, by a spell in the star-studded saxophone section of the Woody Herman orchestra, bringing him to wider notice.

Like many other young saxophonists at the time, Cohn was inspired by Lester Young, whose work with Count Basie in the 1930s created for the instrument a style based on a light tone, a supple sense of rhythm, and an oblique harmonic approach capable of meeting the challenge of modern jazz.

Stan Getz, Brew Moore, Allen Eager, and Zoot Sims were among Cohn's peers, and it was with Sims that he formed an important partnership heard on records and in clubs during the 1950s and early 1960s, especially at Manhattan's now-defunct Half Note.

In contrast with Sims, who was an improviser pure and simple, Cohn's talent as a soloist soon took second place to his gift as a writer. His tunes began to enjoy some currency among fellow musicians, and his ability as an arranger could be heard in the mid-1950s album which he supervised, featuring his then wife Marilyn Moore, a talented singer who was heavily influenced by Billie Holiday.

It was not long before Cohn's jazz activities were overtaken by a new career working for radio, television, the cinema, and Broadway. He was chief arranger for such Broadway musicals as *Raisin* and *Music, Music, Music.*

Admirers of his improvising were delighted when, in the 1970s, he returned to the international jazz-club circuit, where he was often partnered by his son, Joe, a guitarist. His tone had deepened and darkened in the interim, lending his work a rough-hewn power.

He is survived by his wife, Flora, a son and a daughter.

MAJ-GEN RALPH FARRANT

Major-General Ralph Farrant, CB, chairman of the committee of management of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, from 1975 to 1979, died on February 15. He was 79.

Ralph Henry Farrant was born on February 2, 1909, and went to the RMA, Woolwich. He was commissioned in the Royal Artillery in 1929, and served in field and mountain artillery until 1938.

During the war he held technical appointments at the Ministry of Defence and at HQ, Middle East Force.

During the 1950s he was at the Ministry of Supply and, later, director of munitions at the British Joint Services Mission, in Washington. He then became senior project officer at the Armament Research and Development Establishment, before going to the Ordnance Board, War Office, whose president he was in 1963/4.

Farrant was a keen yachtsman — he received the Royal Yachting Association's yachtsman's award in 1974 — and was, therefore, well suited for his RNLI work.

His wife, Laura, a soldier's daughter, died before him. There were two daughters of the marriage.

MISS ELSA SPENCER

Miss Elsa Edgcumbe Spencer, a former schools inspector, and a considerable linguist, died on February 11, at the age of 99.

She was head girl at St Felix's Girls' School in 1905, and later graduated from London University. In 1914 she joined the Board of Education and took up a post in India, where she travelled alone to remote areas inspecting village schools. In India she won the government prize for Urdu, against strong male competition.

She returned to England in 1918 and continued with the Board of Education, until ill health, the result of tropical diseases contracted in India, forced an early retirement upon her.

Later, however, she was well enough to go out to Cyprus and manage an orange grove. She was friendly with Archbishop Makarios and, until his death, sent to him his favourite British magazines.

A short time ago she spent a few days in hospital and was visited by her consultant and an Indian doctor. Before long, the consultant was standing back while Miss Spencer engaged the doctor in Urdu.

She was also fluent in French, German, and Welsh, and had a good grasp of Spanish, Russian, and Greek.

Mr Ron Baird, president of the National Union of Public Employees, and a member of the TUC General Council, died suddenly yesterday. He was 56.

Professor Bhaeddin Majrooh (obituary, February 15), was assassinated on February 11, not on February 10.

صكتا من الاهل

اصدار عن الاهل

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

For the pastors are becoming brutish, and have not sought the Lord: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.
Jeremiah 10:21

BIRTHS

BITOVE - On February 17th, to Sarah Wedgwood and Paul, a daughter, Olivia Charlotte.

BLAKE - On February 12th, to Ros (née Widgery) and Peter, a daughter Alexandra Sarah Louise.

BOHANE - On Wednesday 17th February, at Salisbury, to Davina and Stephen, a daughter Betty Davina, a sister for Benedict.

CAIGE-SMITH - On February 10th 1988, to Jane and Nicholas, in Greenwich, Connecticut, a son William, a brother for Danica.

CARMICHAEL - On January 7th, to Barbara and David, a son Edward Arthur, brother for Eleanor and Victoria. Thanks to staff of the labour ward and neo-natal unit, U.C.H.

DEMESTIHAS - On February 5th, in London, to Serena (née Hickmet) and Constantine, a daughter Elizabeth Athena Helena.

FORTUNE - On February 16th, at St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, to Caroline (née Russell) and David, a son, William David Brook.

GRAHAM - On February 17th, to Jill (née Bean) and David, a daughter Caroline Clare Jane, a sister for Michael.

HOWARD - On February 18th, at Geelong, Australia, to Louise (née Backhouse) and Jonathan, a son George Jonathan Henry, a brother for William.

KINGSCOTE - On February 18th 1988, to DD and Michael, a son, Robert.

LENNARD - On February 17th, to Marilyn (née Galsworthy) and Brian, a daughter Pandora, a sister for Jessica and Jasmine.

MACDONALD - On February 4th, to Pauline and Doug, a daughter Fiona Katherine, a sister for Alex.

ORLIK - On February 16th 1988, to Nuala (née Alen Buckley) and Tim, a son.

PROVÉ - On February 7th, to Wendy (née Nicholl) and George, a son, Thomas Charles.

RABNEY - On February 13th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London, to Pia (née Wilton) and Simon, a daughter, Venetia Charlotte Henrietta Clémence.

SAYEED - On February 16th, to Nicola Anne and Jonathan, a son, Richard Atholl, a brother for Edward.

SMITH - On February 17th, to Judi and Colin, a daughter, Kate Victoria.

TRELIVING - On February 17th, at Queen Charlottes Hospital to Elizabeth and Jonathan, a daughter Lucinda Charlotte Emily, a sister for Stefanie.

WATTS - On February 12th, in Sussex, to Monica and John, a daughter, Alice Louisa, a sister for Jonathan and Christopher.

DEATHS

ALLEGRO - On February 17th 1988, suddenly at his home in Sandbach, Cheshire, John Marco Allegro, aged 65 years, sadly missed by Joan and the family. Funeral Tuesday February 23rd 1988. Committal at Macclesfield Crematorium at 2.00pm. No flowers. Enquiries to Hooley, Watson and Buckley, 7 James St, Macclesfield, Cheshire. Tel 0625 22734.

BICKERTON - On February 17th 1988, peacefully at Forncett Manor, Norfolk, Ivy Mary beloved wife of the late Percy, much loved mother of Roy and Gladys, Betty and Michael, loving grandmother of David, Jeremy, Caroline, Peter, Ellen, Richard, Victor, Philip and Lucy and sister in law of Arthur and Pam. Funeral Service to be held at Holy Innocents Church, Foulsham, Norfolk on Tuesday February 23rd at 2.00pm, followed by cremation at St. Faith's Crematorium, Norfolk. Family flowers only, donations if desired for the Children's Society maybe sent to Hendry & Sons, Funeral Directors, Station Road, Foulsham, Norfolk, NR20 5RG please.

BORTHWICK-NORTON - On Tuesday February 16th 1988, peacefully at home in Purbrook, Eva Sardinia. Funeral service will be held at St James Without The Priory Gate, Southwick, Hampshire on Wednesday March 2nd 1988, at 2.00pm. Followed by private cremation at Porchester Crematorium. Cut flowers only please, by request. Floral tributes and enquiries to: Mr M.J. Moore, J. Edwards & Son, Funeral Directors, Waterlooville. Tel: 0705 262194.

BRAUND - On February 18th, 1988, after a long illness, Harold Braund MBE, MC, of 10, Zara Place, Coffs Harbour, NSW, Australia. Formerly of Steel Brothers. Loving husband of Maxine and father of Wendy and Wilton.

CHRISPIN - On February 17th, William Middleton, beloved husband of Monica and well-loved father of Susan, Patricia and Jonathan, and dearly loved 'Pop' to nine grandchildren. Funeral service on Monday February 22nd at Gt. Tey Parish Church at 11.45 am. Followed by private cremation. No flowers please, donations if desired to: Gt. Tey Parish Church Restoration Fund. Enquiries to: W.H. Shephard (0206) 572305.

CLARKE - On February 13th, suddenly, Christopher John of Caterham, Surrey. Much loved husband of Joan, father of David, Jonathan, Elizabeth and Alison. Son of Vera and brother of Michael. Cremation at Croydon Crematorium, on Wednesday February 24th at 10.30am, followed by a service of thanksgiving at 11.30am, at Caterham United Reformed Church. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Wycliffe Bible Translators or British Heart Foundation c/o B C Baker & Son, Caterham.

de PASS - On February 14th, Elizabeth Eberhardt, widow of Lieutenant Commander John de Pass, R.N. (retired), mother of David. Private funeral. Letters may be sent to 26 Bowerdean Street, London SW6 3TW.

DUNCAN - On February 5th, suddenly at home, Lyndhurst Drive, Montreal Park, Sevenoaks, Kent. John, aged 73 years. Husband of the late Beti, and father of Ian and Alison.

FOX - On February 14th 1988, peacefully in Torremolinos, Spain, Kenneth, devoted husband of Anita, loving and much loved by so many. Enquires c/o Dr. M.B.Fox, 20 Drake Road, Skegness, Lincolnshire.

GRIFFITHS - On February 14th, 1988 Grahame Maxwell Kimpton. Peacefully, after a painful disease bravely borne, and with humour to the end. Mallory, Maureen and all loving friends.

HIGHTON - On February 17th, in Ipswich Hospital, Rear Admiral Jack Kenneth Highton. Beloved husband of Eileen and dearly loved father of Jenepher, Elizabeth and Richard. Funeral service at Bromeswell Church on Tuesday February 23rd at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, for King George's Fund for Sailors to E.B. Button & Sons, 24 St John's Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

HOLMES - On February 17th, peacefully at Brecon House, Long Street, Sherborne, Dorset, Major Douglas George Holmes, late The Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Beloved husband of Evelyn (Trixie), dear father of Tim and Cherry and adored Papa of Thomas and Edward. Private funeral. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to The Cardiac Unit, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, c/o Midland Bank, Sherborne, Dorset.

HOLT - On February 16th 1988, peacefully at Penair Nursing Home, Truro, Caroline Mary Rea beloved wife of the late John Holt, dearest mother of Patrick, Priscilla and Bruce. Funeral service Devoran Parish Church Friday February 19that 1pm.

HORSINGTON - On February 16th 1988, peacefully in his garden, aged 80 years, Frederick William George. Much loved husband of Joan, father of Timothy and Simon, father-in-law of Elizabeth and Ann, Grandpa of Lucy, Guy and Alexander. Service at St. Andrew's Church, Droitwich, on Monday 22nd February at 2pm, followed by cremation at Worcester. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu; for St. Andrew's Church, c/o The Rectory, 205 Worcester Rd, Droitwich.

HOULIHAN - On January 25th 1988, Margaret P. at St. John of God Hospital, Ennis, Ireland, late Matron, Ampleforth College, York, deeply regretted by her brothers Ignatius and John, her sisters in law, nephews, nieces, grand-nephews, grand-nieces and friends. Funeral has taken place in Ireland. Memorial Requiem will be held at Ampleforth Abbey on Thursday 25th February at 12 noon.

KERR - On Wednesday February 17th 1988, peacefully at home after a long illness borne with great courage, Patrick George Kerr, in his 80th year, beloved brother of Jean and dear friend of Jeannie. Funeral private, family flowers only, but donations if desired to "The League of Friends", Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital, c/o K. B. Stiis Ltd, Funeral Directors, Kenwood, High St, Cranbrook, Kent (0580 712284).

LEWSEY - On February 11th, in her 64th year, Helga, beloved wife of Denis, mother of Christine and Helga-Jean and grandmother of Matthew and Rachael. The Funeral has already taken place. If desired donations in her memory may be made to the League of Friends of Highlands House, 10/12 Calverley Park Gardens, Tunbridge Wells.

MONRO - On February 17th 1988, Frederic Lionel, beloved husband of Sylvia, father of David, Hannah and Jane. Grandfather of Alexander, Richard, Susanna and Joanna. Funeral at 3.00pm Tuesday, February 23rd at St. Luke's, Grayshott, Hampshire.

NEWMAN - On February 16th, Rosie Violet Nina Millicent, FRGS, at Holyport Lodge, Maidenhead, peacefully in her 92nd year. Funeral at St Pauls Knightsbridge SW1, at 2.15pm, on Wednesday 24th February. Flowers to church. Cremation private.

POWELL - On February 6th 1988, Emma Louise, aged 23 years. Darling daughter of Tim and Anthea and loving sister of Anna and Serena. Private cremation followed by memorial service at Chelsea Old Church on February 23rd at 12.30pm.

SHEALS - On February 11th 1988, Alan, while rock climbing in Andorra where he had made his home. Local burial at La Massana took place on February 15th.

STANSFELD - On February 14th, peacefully at home, Wynn James. Dearly loved husband of Lorna and much loved father and grandfather. Funeral service at Playden Church, near Rye at 12 noon on Monday February 22nd. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the R.N.L.I.

STOCK - On February 16th, at Kingston Hospital, Dorothy Joyce, much loved wife of John Miles (Jack), mother of John and grandmother of Jennifer. Funeral private, at Kingston Crematorium on Wednesday, February 24th, at 1.pm. Flowers if desired to Paines Undertakers, High Street, New Malden.

TAYLOR - On February 2nd 1988, suddenly in Accra, Ghana, Richard Mortimer of Coton Manor, Shrewsbury and formally of Wolverhampton. Requiem Mass at the Church of Christ the Kings, Accra, at 11am on Friday February 26th, followed by burial at Osu Cemetery.

TYRRELL - On February 16th, peacefully at home Wing Commander Joseph Edward, beloved husband of Gwyneth (deceased). Funeral private.

WALKER - On Monday February 15th 1988, aged 43, Tony formerly of Michelin. Beloved husband of Helen and father of Martin. Service at Southwell Minster, Friday February 19th at 11.30 am, followed by private burial. No flowers by request. Donations if desired to Cancer Research, cheques made payable to Nottingham University Dept of Surgery and sent to the Health Centre, Burgage Green, Southwell, Nottingham NG25 0EW.

WEBB WARE - On February 16th 1988, peacefully after a short illness, Basil St. Martyn Frank, in his 80th year, husband of Ruth, father of Timothy and Sarah. Funeral at St. Giles, Graffham on Wednesday February 24th at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. No flowers please, donations, if desired, to King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst.

WYBREW - On February 17th 1988, peacefully after a short illness, Marjorie May (Tots). Beloved wife of Bryan, much loved mother of John and the late, darling, Ann. Grandma of Helen, Katie, Charlotte and Matthew and mother in law to Wendy and Colin. Funeral service at The Church of St. Paul's, Clacton on Sea, on Thursday 25th February at 2.45pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Research.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CROFTON - Olive Amy Stewart. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Lady Crofton, and interment of ashes will take place at All Saints, Minstead at 11am on Sunday 24th April, 1988.

FRANCIS - On Sunday February 21st, at 12.30 pm at St Paul's Church, Covent Garden, there will be a Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Raymond Francis.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

WATSON - On February 19th 1987, Mary A M Watson, sadly missed. Margaret Woodham, John Hobbs, Iain McCorquodale and Stephen Beasley.

Latest wills

Colonel Peter **Arkwright**, of Willersey, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £2,661,523.

Mr Michael Humphrey **Farebrother**, of Seaford, East Sussex, headmaster of St Peter's School, Seaford, 1956-82, left £431,448 net.

Sir Ronald **Long**, of Halstead, Essex, solicitor, for 45 years senior partner in Smith, Morton & Long, President of the Law Society 1963, a founder and first solicitor member of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, left estate valued at £65,921 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Bernstein, Mr John Bernard, of London W1 .... £576,807
France, Mrs Winifred Beatrice, of Scarborough, North Yorkshire £715,995
Harris, Vivian Parkes Lucas Beynon, of Hythe, Kent £536,641
Huntley, Mr Desmond Ernest, of Loudwater, Hertfordshire £303,295
Joseph, Mr Cyril Stanley, of Edgbaston, Birmingham £904,646
Knight, Mr Derek Charles, of Great Amwell, Hertfordshire £468,988
Levers, Mr Frank, of Darley Abbey, Derbyshire... £1,130,359
Moyse, Mr George, of West Raddon, Devon, farmer £303,524
Radley, Mr Bernard, of North Hykeham, Lincolnshire £598,566
Rawson, Mr Howard Elsworth, of Appleton Roebuck, North Yorkshire £726,629
Scriven, Mr Harvey Lionel, of Hove, East Sussex ... £1,262,752
Smyth, Mrs Eileen Helen Nancy, of Brockenhurst, Hampshire £340,675
Thompson, Mrs Ursula Mary, of Alvington, Gloucestershire £526,494

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LONDON ANTIQUE
DEALERS FAIR
THE CAFE ROYAL,
REGENT STREET, W.1.
Opens 16th - 21st February
Tues 2pm-8pm.
The daily 11am-8pm
60 Exhibitors. Furniture Pre.1850
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Scheme for the regulation of the Charity Ref: 251577 A/1-LA

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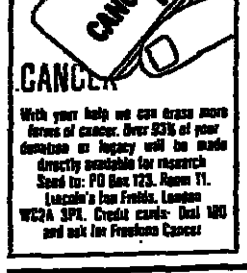

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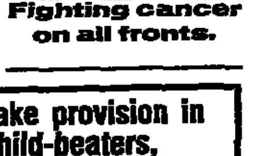

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FRENCH Science student, male, 19, driving licence, seeks job July and/or Aug. Anything legal considered. Giffard. Le Muelin, 50450 Lessay, France.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity : John Pease Cottages.
Great Ayton, North Yorkshire.
The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for the regulation of this Charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref: 28,137 A/1-CDON1) at Graeme House, Derby Square, Liverpool, L2 7SB. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them by 19th March, 1988.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF R F M FOOTWEAR LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above-named Company which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 11th day of March 1988, to send in their full forenames and surname, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned M J ISAACS FCA, 3RD FLOOR, PETER HOUSE, OXFORD STREET, MANCHESTER M1 5AB, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 9th day of February 1988
M J ISAACS
LIQUIDATOR

TELEVISION PARLOUR PLC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named Company, which has been compulsorily wound up are required, on or before 25 March 1988 to prove their debts by sending to the undersigned M C Withall of Grant Thornton Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, London NW1 2EP the Joint Liquidator of the company, written statements of the amounts they claim to be due to them from the company and, if so requested, to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the Joint Liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt before the declaration of any dividend is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it, the distribution of that dividend or any other dividend declared before his debt was proved.
Date: 9 February 1988
M C WITHALL
Joint Liquidator

IN THE MATTER OF
TELEVISION PARLOUR PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that Maurice Charles Withall of Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP, and William Morys Roberts of Ernst & Whinney, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 were appointed joint liquidators of the above company by the creditors on 1 February 1988.
Dated this 8 of February 1988
M C Withall and W M Roberts
JOINT LIQUIDATORS

AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL
(CYMRU) LIMITED
COMPANY NUMBER : 1700806

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46 (1) (a) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that Peter Richard Copp of Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Administrative Receiver of all the property of the above company on 9 February 1988 by National Westminster Bank plc under the powers contained in a mortgage debenture containing fixed and floating charges dated 8 January 1987.
Dated this 11th day of February 1988
P.R. COPP - Administrative Receiver

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
OF TRUSTEE
INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 6.124 (1)
In the matter of Michael Matthew Hawkins (In Bankruptcy)
In the Romford County Court
No. 57 of 1987

Notice is hereby given that on 16th December 1987, Melvyn Laurence Rose F.C.A., F.C.C.A. of Lidgra House, 250 Kingsbury Road, London NW9 0BS was appointed Trustee of the above-named Estate.
Dated this 9th day of February 1988
Melvyn Laurence Rose (F.C.A., F.C.C.A)
TRUSTEE

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY
GENERATING BOARD
NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONSTRUCT A COAL-FIRED POWER STATION AT FAWLEY IN THE NEW FOREST DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

Notice is hereby given that the Central Electricity Generating Board has applied under Section 2 of the Electric Lighting Act 1909 as amended by the Electricity Acts 1947 and 1957 for the consent of the Secretary of State for Energy to construct a coal-fired power station at Fawley in the New Forest District in the County of Hampshire.
The new station, to be known at Fawley 'B' would have a capacity of approximately 1800 megawatts (MW) using 2 x 900 MW coal-fired boiler turbine units.
A copy of the application with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Board's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, with a summary thereof, are available for inspection during normal office hours at the following address:-
New Forest District Council, Appletree Court, Lyndhurst, Hampshire;
Hampshire County Council, The Castle, Winchester, Hampshire;
Southampton Central Library, Civic Centre, Southampton, Hampshire;
Central Electricity Generating Board Headquarters, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU.
Any objection to the application should be made in writing to the Secretary, Department of Energy, Electricity Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ stating the name of the station and the ground for objection. Written submissions should be made to the Secretary of State by the 6th day of May 1988.
It is requested that a copy of any objection be sent to:
Fawley 'B' Planning Consent Team Manager, Central Electricity Generating Board, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU.
The CEGB will also be applying to the Secretary of State for Transport to make a Harbour Empowerment Order under Section 16 of the Harbours Act 1964 for the construction of a jetty. Further notice concerning arrangements for objections to this application will be given in due course.

IN THE MATTER OF THE
INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AND IN THE MATTER OF
WAYNE PATERNOSTER LIMITED
Registered Office: 33-34 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EW.
Principal Trading Address: 76 College Road, Maidstone, Kent.
Company No: 1789481

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Grangemoor Hotel, Saint Michaels Road, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8BS on the 29th day of February 1988, at 11 O'clock in the fore-noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986, i.e.:-
1. To consider the Directors' Statement of Affairs.
2. To appoint a Liquidator.
3. To appoint a Liquidation Committee.
No creditor may vote who has not lodged a proof of debt at 33/34 Chancery Lane, together with a proxy if required, not later than 4.00pm on 26th February 1988.
The following insolvency practitioner will provide creditors free of charge with information concerning the company's affairs: John Parry Richards, 33/34 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EW
(Telephone: 01 405 8799: please ask for Tracey Callaghan).
Dated this 8th day of February 1988
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
W Paternoster
Secretary

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY
GENERATING BOARD
NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CONSTRUCT A SECOND COAL-FIRED POWER STATION AT WEST BURTON IN THE DISTRICT OF BASSETLAW IN THE COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Notice is hereby given that the Central Electricity Generating Board has applied under section 2 of the Electric Lighting Act 1909 as amended by the Electricity Acts 1947 and 1957 for the consent of the Secretary of State for Energy to construct a second coal-fired power station at West Burton in the District of Bassetlaw in the County of Nottinghamshire.
The new station to be known as West Burton 'B', would have a capacity of approximately 1800 megawatts (MW) using 2 x 900 MW coal-fired boiler turbine units.
A copy of the application with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Board's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, with a summary thereof, are available for inspection during normal office hours at the following addresses:-
Bassetlaw District Council, Queens Buildings, Potter Street, Worksop, Nottinghamshire;
Nottinghamshire County Council, Principal County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham;
West Lindsey District Council, The Guildhall, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire;
Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Lincoln;
Retford Information Centre, Bassetlaw District Council, The Retford Town Hall, The Square, Retford, Nottinghamshire;
West Burton 'B' Information Centre, 43 Lead Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire;
West Burton 'B' Information Centre, 1 Churchgate, East Retford, Nottinghamshire;
Central Electricity Generating Board Headquarters, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU.
Any objection to the application should be made in writing to the Secretary, Department of Energy, Electricity Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ stating the name of the station and the grounds for objection. Written submissions should be made to the Secretary of State by the 6th day of May 1988.
It is requested that a copy of any objection be sent to me.
J E Heather, Consents Manager,
Central Electricity Generating Board,
Bankside House,
Sumner Street,
London SE1 9JU.

IN THE MATTER OF HOPKINS
UPHOLSTERY LIMITED
(In Members Voluntary Liquidation)
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that John Coleman of Moore Stephens ST. PAUL'S HOUSE, WARWICK LANE, LONDON EC4P 4BN was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company on 1st February 1988.
Dated this fifteenth day of February 1988
JOHN COLEMAN
Liquidator

Continued on page 30

Courage in face of Aids

TELEVISION

It is odd that so far, television dramas based on the Aids epidemic have been heterosexual in emphasis. This is perhaps because the crisis broke before television had overcome its considerable reservations about gay drama.

But there is not the same problem with documentaries, and last night's *40 Minutes* (BBC-2), "Diary of a Frontliner" was a bold attempt to let one gay sufferer from Aids express his fears and emotions directly.

The programme managed to avoid the patronizing air of some films in this series, mainly because Peter Tilson, a 48-year-old hairdresser, was articulate and ruthlessly honest. He had been given a video camera to record his own thoughts at home, and thus could respond directly to the death of friends, the blast of the hurricane, or the possibility of oncoming blindness. (Tilson has Aids encephalitis, and is likely to suffer in the future from dementia).

By itself this might have made an indigestible film, but we also saw Tilson at work in the Frontliners group which helps Aids sufferers, preparing a local newspaper interview in Ipswich where he worked, and talking to his family and friends about his problems.

Like many Aids victims, he appeared to find no solace in any distraction, religious or otherwise, from confronting his fate. Sharing the pain was his most positive act.

He spends time visiting hospitals, cutting the hair of other sufferers, and taking part in high-profile activities to alert people to the problems of Aids (of which this programme must have been the one with the most risk to his privacy).

In the end, though, it was his isolation and his uncertainty as to when incapacitation might strike, which were the most frightening aspects of his story.

William Holmes

Home is the rink

THEATRE

The Rink
Cambridge Theatre

DONALD COOPER

Queen bee and ugly duckling: Josephine Blake (left) and Diane Langton get down to the business of settling the score

Although the 1984 Broadway company of this Ebb and Kander musical was led by Liza Minnelli and Chita Rivera, its indisputable star was Peter Larkin's set: a vast desolate rollerdrome awaiting the first onslaught of the big lead ball.

Chris Kinman's set for this smashing production (from the Wythenshawe Forum, Manchester) is hardly less spectacular, but this time what goes on inside it amounts to a good deal more than a belting duet by two rival top-liners.

"The Rink" deals with a painful and messy period of America's recent past, and Paul Kerryson's production takes all that on board without making any short cuts to the happy ending before the moment arrives.

It is some time in the 1970s and Angel is trudging back home, a broke and clapped-out hippie returning to the nest. Home is the rink which she fled in parental rebellion and she now finds that her mother has committed the ultimate treachery of forging her signature to sell the place. Angel promptly blocks the transaction and sets about reclaiming her inheritance, a process that takes the form of squaring accounts with her mother.

Terrence McNally's book echoes *Gipsy* as another variation on the mother-daughter battle, though with the roles reversed. Here, it is Anna, the mother, who is the sexual queen bee while Angel features as the love-starved ugly duckling. The flashbacks to the days of Anna's courtship to a snake-hipped Italian boy who walked out on her, show how the little girl grew up to be like that.

Around this central thread the show is reflecting the larger alienations of the period, and it is here that it loses focus. There are two ways of looking at the rink. Either it stands for the characters' unhappy past experience, and ought to be demolished; or it represents the lost values of tradition, and ought to be conserved. The authors make no decision either way, and switch between the alternatives at their theatrical convenience with the result that the fable falls apart.

What it does possess is a consistent sense of tarnished innocence, established as much by Kander's sardonic fairground music as by the visible condemned playground, and a marvellously adroit passage of scenes between past and present.

The set itself, from its miniature bar to its degutted Mighty Wurlitzer, is honeycombed with areas that become flooded with past romance. -

The partnership of Diane Langton and Josephine Blake includes some exhilarating friendship numbers. It also exposes the numbing cruelties of their past. Anna has a big affirmative love duet with Dino, whose soupy harmonies and throbbing ardour is undercut with harsh demands for the little girl to leave them alone.

Miss Blake plays this material with a fearless combination of bedrock sexual selfishness for which her charm barely compensates.

Long-limbed numbers are a great strength of the score, "Whatever Happened to the Old Days?", for instance, which incorporates a ghetto-blasting invasion and a mugging; or the glorious title number where the wrecking team take triumphantly to their skates.

Irving Wardle

Poignant images persist

On The Black Hill
Watermans Arts Centre

All dramatizations of novels wipe out peripheral characters as though they had never been, and forfeit the original richness. But the theatre has its own ways of evoking emotion, and there are images in this adaption of Bruce Chatwin's 1982 novel that with few words, or none, reach to the heart of a relationship. I think particularly of the two middle-aged identical twins sweeping scythes in unison, on and on, in a fading light.

Chatwin's touching and quietly mysterious book tells of Lewis and Benjamin Jones, who pass their whole lives working a remote farm on the Welsh Borders. One side of the farmhouse looks down into England, the other side up at the cold Black Hill. The twins' parentage is similarly divided, with a dour and vengeful Welsh father (Terry Jackson) married to the modestly cultured daughter (Susan McGoun) of an English vicar.

Charles Way's otherwise sensitive version underemphasizes the role of the racial difference in forcing a wedge between the parents. Their Lawrentian marriage is presented as sour from the start, but this simplification weakens the characters and makes it harder to follow the shifts in the father's feelings for his sons — yanking them away from school early, yet plotting with them against the corrupt Recruiting Officer in 1914.

By subtle changes of posture and voice Andy Rivers and Siôn Tudor Owen are youngsters, young men and 80 year olds, Lewis the one who wants to marry, travel, fly an aeroplane, Benjamin the one who loves his twin and cooks. Benjamin goes briefly into the army but otherwise they are seldom apart, growing old along with the cantankerous villagers in their Anglo-Welsh pocket of the world.

Way preserves Chatwin's simple speech, as artfully plain as Hemingway's, to which the occasional song adds a grave ground bass, suggesting that seasons change yet little changes. As the incidents pile up the characters acquire a mythic dimension, always themselves but enacting profounder human conflicts.

Jamie Garven's accomplished production for Made In Wales Stage Company moves easily through place and time, using the full reach of the stage, and turning the central area of different levels, resembling a weathered flight of steps, into farmhouse, field or hillside. When characters die they stand for a moment on this height before stepping into darkness beyond it. The image is familiar but gains in poignancy with each repetition.

Jeremy Kingston

Pretty piece is insubstantial

CONCERTS

ECO/Tate
Royal Festival Hall

Milhaud's Concerto for marimba and vibraphone is a bright and cheerful little piece: if it were a painting it would be by Raoul Dufy, and look pretty on birthday cards. A solo percussionist might be tempted to see more in it, but Evelyn Glennie last night was content to be limber and lucid, and efficient almost to a fault.

Perhaps even she wished she were playing something of greater musical weight, but then there are very few percussion concertos to choose from, perhaps for the good reason that our notion of the concerto soloist, even now, is bound up with ideas of projecting a musical personality, ideas which it is hard to realize when your only tools are hammers.

No doubt there are percussion concertos to be written out of the very impossibility of the notion: one looks forward to hearing Miss Glennie play them.

This perplexing programme continued with *Les illuminations* and Strauss's suite of music for *Le bourgeois gentilhomme*. In the former Felicity Lott had to tread warily under the shadow of flu, so that the careless rapture was muted, as it was also in some untidy orchestral playing. But from Miss Lott there was compensating glow and warmth, so odd in Rimbaud but so true to the work and so English: a French singer in this music might find her own language and literature made alien.

Possibly almost as much as Lully is made alien by Strauss, with volumes of percussion and a vulgar trumpet countermelody triumphing over his little sarabande.

Jeffrey Tate's affection for the score is difficult to comprehend, except in the light of his championing of the Henze-Monteverdi *Ulisse*. Certainly on this occasion any charm in the thing was not well communicated by the English Chamber Orchestra, except in some of the woodwind detail and in José-Luis Garcia's schmaltzier violin solos.

This was an evening that altogether misfired, with a poor, unexcited Royal Philharmonic Society audience and an appallingly badly proof-read programme book. It seemed a trifle strange, too, that the funds of the Barbirolli Trust should be used to promote the career of an instrumental soloist who is already an alumna of *Wogan*.

Paul Griffiths

Brief notes on a boundless epic

De Saram/Tilbury
Lauderdale House

If this review were to reflect the character of the major work in this the first of three concerts given in memory of Morton Feldman, who died last year, it would cover the entire page and a good deal more of today's paper. It would also be prefaced by an instruction to read as slowly as possible, and it would be coached in more poetic language, for the work concerned, *Untitled Composition*for cello and piano, composed in 1981, contains sounds of undeniable beauty.

Like most later Feldman, the piece is characterized by small repeated phrases, silences, and a concentrated quietness and stillness which only rarely relent. Above all, however, our perception of it is coloured by that testing vastness, at least in a performance in such conventional circumstances as these.

Perhaps the hour and three quarters it occupies might pass more quickly if one heard it in comfort, privacy, and, preferably, darkness. Yet, even in this situation, one had to admire Feldman's gift for plucking such refined, often delectable sounds from the air. It is as though he were randomly catching snowflakes, diffidently allowing them to reveal their infinitely varied patterns as they melt slowly in the palm.

Rohan de Saram and John Tilbury gave the piece with impressive concentration. De Saram had to cope with a trickily high tessitura, but his control over dynamics and the quality of his sound were well nigh impeccable.

Earlier, Tilbury played the *Two Intermissions* of 1950 and *Piano Piece 1952*. In these works Feldman's musical relationship with Webern is made manifest, though at the same time the clean purity of his lines already points the way forward to the flavour of his later music. The difference is that, somewhere along the line, he chose to exchange the aphorism for the boundless epic.

Stephen Pettitt

Smooth stamina

LONDON DEBUT

Mark Pedrotti, who made his debut at the Purcell Room, has the gift of an unusually smooth, rich-hued baritone which he can, with total ease, propel up into the head voice of a near-tenor range. His production is often curiously like that of a tenor; the faultless integration of the voices registers, and the stamina in projecting them, reminds one of the Soviet baritone, Yuri Masurok.

This was particularly so, of course, in his four Tchaikovsky songs. But the comparison ends rather abruptly when Mr Pedrotti's artistry comes into question. Too much is over-earnest, under-estimated: he functions better as an entirely engaging story-teller, a role he adopted with alacrity in a set of Canadian folk songs (Mr Pedrotti, a New Zealander, lives in Canada).

One of these was, beautifully, French, and his command of that language, if not its more flexible and finely nuanced idiom, was shown in two of Poulenc's *Miroirs brûlants*.

Hilary Finch

● The English National Opera have been forced to cancel, for financial reasons, their production of Wagner's *Tannhäuser*, scheduled to open on May 28, because of the miserable increase of 2.5 per cent awarded to the company by the Arts Council for 1988/9. Ken Russell was to have directed — his British opera début.

Pure let-down

DANCE

Triple bill
Covent Garden

I wonder whether the Royal Ballet at Covent Garden has ever before given a programme entirely of plotless works. And, indeed, why they have done so this week. Is this a change of heart, an experiment, or just an oversight?

True, there is a pretence of a theme in *The Sons of Horus*: the goddess Isis mourning her husband. But that is only a pretext for a particular style of movement after ancient Egyptian art. David Bintley's choreography interests, despite some eccentricities, by its shapes and patternings, its occasional humour and the quietness of Lesley Collier's benediction at the beginning and end.

La Fin du jour also brings an unusual stylization, between-the-wars chic, but Ian Spurling's over-cute designs undercut the sporty posturings of Kenneth MacMillan's choreography.

Symphonic Variations is the programme's centrepiece. It is always good to see Ashton's finest lyrical choreography, even if this time enjoyment depended on awareness of the dance patterns more than their underpowered performance. Because this ballet has no veneer of assumed style, it shows up more than the others that the Royal Ballet has let slip its tradition of handling pure dance with pride, skill and full-bodied presentation.

That is more obvious among the men, but with a few honourable acceptions it is rather uncomfortably true of many dancers at the principal and soloist levels.

Stewart Kershaw, returning as guest conductor, secured sympathetic tempos and passable playing of César Franck's variations and the Ravel G Major concerto, with Anthony Twiner and Philip Gammon as soloists.

John Percival

H F

Habsburg, Feldman
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Inside Raven's world

Chris Peachment

interviews the novelist and playwright Simon Raven, chronicler of two generations of upper class bad behaviour, whose latest book is published this week

JERRY BAUER

The ties that bind: Simon Raven (centre, above) pictured with friends and acquaintances, clockwise from top left: Mark Boxer, Robert Kee, Anthony Blond and William Rees-Mogg

It is of course grossly unfair on both of them to compare the works of Simon Raven and Anthony Powell, but at the very least both have undertaken the immense task of a *roman-fleuve* which chronicles the lives and times of, if not a whole society, at least their class and set.

There occurs in one of Raven's books the anecdote of an army officer who would not use the field latrines for fear his men might see him. This is used as a put-down on silly middle class prudery, but one cannot help but think of the *pudeur* with which Powell treats the sexual lives of his characters. Obliquity is his general tone throughout, and it becomes near impenetrably delicate when dealing with the business between the sexes.

Raven, on the other hand, dives headlong into the bull ring with Chaucerian relish. Bad behaviour, bad debts, bad characters: he loves them all with a pagan delight. His raffishness is based upon the sure knowledge that a gentleman does not care what others think of him.

There is also an incident in one of the later volumes in the *Alms For Oblivion* series when Daniel Mond, a Cambridge mathematician, rounds on Fielding Grey, the facially disfigured novelist and clearly Raven's authorial mouthpiece, and accuses Fielding of having shamelessly plundered their friendship for use as material in one of his novels. Fielding is hard-pressed to justify himself.

Given that several of Raven's generation, such as William Rees-Mogg, are quite clearly visible as models in this *roman-fleuve-à-clef*, one wonders if a similar charge had ever been laid against Raven.

"Not from the fiction", says Raven, "because for any one character I take several characteristics from various chums, and also mix in a bit of myself. The character of Gregory Stern, the publisher, was based upon Anthony Blond, my publisher, which he rather liked. And Max de Freville the professional gambler was loosely based on John Aspinall, who is a very agreeable man.

"Mark Boxer, however, did get rather cross about how I wrote him up in a memoir of Cambridge. He had forgotten that during his first year in Cambridge he had said that he was going to stop being right wing because it was no longer fashionable. He was cross about that, but we are friends to this day."

Raven's own career reads like one of his more rackety characters. After expulsion from Charterhouse, he was studying classics at Kings, Cambridge (undoubtedly the reason why he writes perfect English) with a view to becoming a don, but found writing a novel more congenial than his thesis.

The novel was eventually published some 30 years later, but in the meantime he sought gainful employment in either MI5 or MI6. "Never was too sure of the difference. But they wouldn't have me.

"Probably wasn't leftie enough for them. Or treacherous enough. Or queer enough, come to that, although I was half queer at Cambridge."

And so he joined the army and had five educational years in post-war Germany and then post-Mau Mau Kenya. "The tavern and the camp are much better teachers for a writer than sitting around some university contracting tertiary socialism."

Alas, a string of three-legged horses led to half the bookies in the Midlands banging on his door. "Fortunately, my CO showed me the fire escape. I had to resign, but at least I avoided a court martial."

All of which may go some way to explaining the main theme of the *Alms For Oblivion* sequence: that man's intentions, even the best of them, are too often undone by a malign fate. "Gambling in a way is a very moral sort of school, because it teaches you to put up with fate. Besides, if you hang around long enough, some big winner usually comes along."

In Raven's case this would seem to be Anthony Blond. After the army, Raven was putting himself about in the literary journalist world. "Looked up some old chums from Cambridge. Joe Ackerly was on *The Listener*. Robert Kee at the *Spectator*. Rees-Mogg was in some recherché economic outfit, so he was out."

An essay on army life, in a symposium put together by Hugh Thomas, led Anthony Blond to back Raven as a potential novelist. Paying him a weekly wage of £15 ("good money in those days"), Blond forbade him to live within striking range of the London fleshpots.

New Seed for Old, volume four of his second series called *The First Born of Egypt*, features all the old characters from the first series, such as Captain Detterling, lately the Marquess Canteloupe, but now concentrates on their offspring. Or, at least in this case, Canteloupe's desperate measures to acquire a son and heir.

All the old corruption is there, but it is noticeable how his women are improving their manners. "I hate women and their possessiveness and petty jealousies," he says, without any particular rancour. "They are totally lacking in logic, and seem psychologically incapable of acting sensibly. And they are just as likely to be jealous of a man's club, or his job or his regiment, as they are of other women.

"Still, I think I'm in favour of these new feminists. Of course they can be tiresome and terribly silly, but they do seem to be getting off their backsides and doing something, which is more than my generation's lot ever did."

● New Seed for Old *is published this week by Muller at £10.95. The 10 novels in the* Alms for Oblivion *series are published in paperback by Granada.*

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FRIDAY PAGE

Why America is hot under the collar about women and love – and Britain is hot on the trail of marital harmony

Is it Shere genius?

The latest *Hite Report* has caused the expected furore. **Victoria McKee** meets the author and hears about the seven years of research – and the critics

Two burly minders, in the guise of doorman and superintendent, bar the entrance to Shere Hite's duplex on Central Park South in New York. Inside, the "internationally recognized cultural historian and researcher" as the book jacket of the latest *Hite Report* describes her, lives in a rococo fantasy of frescoed and ornately stuccoed ceilings, oak-panelled walls inset with brocade, shimmering sofas, gilded mirrors and candelabras. One corner contains Hite's huge, cluttered desk, but the focal point of the vast room is the grand piano, decked with gladioli, which belongs to her husband of three years, the German pianist Friedrich Horicke.

"There's not much room for Fred's stuff, I'm afraid, with all of mine," Hite apologizes.

The theatrical setting, both home and headquarters of Hite Research, the company under which she carries out the research for her books, provides the perfect backdrop for Hite's dramatic Pre-Raphaelite looks – wavy golden hair, pale eyes and skin set off by darkly painted lips. Restless fingers taper to blood red nails.

Hite is still reeling from the controversy that has surrounded her latest book, *The Hite Report on Women and Love*, the culmination of the *Hite Report* trilogy on sexuality, the first of which (on female sexuality) was published in 1976, the second (on male sexuality) in 1981. Critics have questioned both her research (she sent out 100,000 questionnaires and received 4,500 anonymous responses from women across the United States) and whether her findings – for example, that 98 per cent of the women desired fundamental changes in their marriages – can be considered representative of American women.

Hite believes that the attacks on her methods have been launched almost entirely by men in order to conjure up a smoke screen to obscure the "real" issues raised by her book. Her survey discovered, she points out, that women are frustrated in their relationships with men, "not that women are unhappy, which is quite different".

"It's not true that there's been a mass uprising of academics and sociologists saying that my work is lousy," Hite says. "*Time* magazine started the whole thing with a cover story saying that women were fed up and men were to blame according to my report – before it was even off the presses."

The second attack came from ABC News and the *Washington Post*. "How do they conduct *their* polls?" Hite asks. "There are a million studies produced every day and I've never seen one taken apart like this one."

The *Des Moines Register* was also hostile. "Was their Iowa caucus any more representative?"

The targeting of a "supposedly" representative sample of the population was an option that was closed to her, Hite stresses, as only by being ignorant of their names could she guarantee her respondents the anonymity they needed to answer 180 intimate questions, "so that if they *did* have extramarital sex, they could be sure their husbands would never know". So she sent questionnaires out to "places where women congregate", and hoped they would want to participate.

Shere Hite speaks: "Relationships are a microcosm of society"

Finally, in response to her critics, "I said: 'OK, if you don't want to think of it as representative, fine. Just think of these 4,500 women and maybe you've known a few women who've said the same things to you – that they wish men would talk more, or wouldn't put them down'." Her survey may not be perfect, she concedes, "but it is the best there is".

Women and Love, the culmination of a seven-year study of her samples' responses is subtitled "A cultural revolution in progress", and she would like it to be seen as revolutionary in a very literal sense. "Of course it's political," she says. "Relationships are a microcosm of society. There is a line in the book saying that 'most women meet the system every day in the faces of men they love'. Two cultures have grown up over the years and are in conflict inside the home. By trying to get men to be less aggressive, less combative and more loving, women are waging, on a one-to-one level, a battle which is also the battle for society."

Hite is not sure that her critics understand this. "If they understand that it's not just a critique of relationships but one of society, and are really angry at it and attacking me in all these ways – including character assassination – for that reason, then I'm flattered. But if they're doing it because they're stupid fools, upset that women might not be happy with them, then I say I'm moving to Afghanistan."

In the survey, 70 per cent of women who had been married for more than five years said they were having extramarital affairs, although almost all believed in monogamy and believed their husbands to be faithful; 91 per cent of those who had divorced said that they made the decision to divorce, not their husbands – and not because of adultery or an unsatisfying sex life but because of a sense of emotional isolation in the marriage.

"You would think men would want to know *why* most divorces are brought by women – they should be glad to understand what's going on," Hite suggests. But men seldom buy her books, she adds scornfully. "Women just underline the parts they find most relevant and give them to men to read."

She likens the criticism she has received to the subtle psychological undermining that the women in her study describe. "It's just like at home, this is the same thing on a larger scale – men using disparaging stereotypes and being condescending. They are saying: 'Who are you, some kind of weird person? And who are these 4,500 weird women and who wants to read this boring book anyway?' "

The previous night a meeting had been held to form a Shere Hite Defence Committee. Gloria Steinem, Kate Millet and other leading feminists have already signed a statement in her support, she says.

"If your research is attacked, *you* are attacked; but we decided to talk not only about me, but about the general treatment of women in the media – and to try to monitor the sort of things that are going on."

The front-page newspaper comparisons of Raisa Gorbachov and Nancy Reagan are to her a prime example of the trivialization of women that the new committee intends to tackle.

Readers of *Women and Love* may disagree with some of Hite's subjective analyses, skip over the lengthy chapters on lesbianism and balk at the suggestion of "a militaristic strategy" or even an "ideologial revolution", and decide, like her American critics, to take the statistics with a pinch of salt. But Hite feels sure that the words of the 4,500 women will make compelling reading.

The goddess Diana illustrates her latest book cover, Hite says, "because she was called the virgin goddess – not because she didn't have sex, but because nobody owned her. Many of the women in the book would not call themselves feminists, but they have pride and they are struggling in their private lives for some sort of respect. One of the purposes of this book was to show the women fighting these battles that they aren't alone."

Will there be a fourth *Hite Report*? Hite smiles. "We should all be thinking where we want to go from this point – and that's what I'm trying to decide. But I think I might do a fictional thing now."

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The Hite Report on Women and Love *(Viking, £14.95) is published on February 25*

Keeping the faith

BARBARA AMIEL

Nothing makes gloomier reading than the new spate of articles on the state of marriage in Britain. The Family Policy Studies Centre recently released a study showing British divorce rates to be rising and the National Campaign for the Family responded with a call for no divorce in the first three years of marriage. Last week *The Times* called the rate of marriage breakdown a "catastrophe" and demanded adequate funding by the Government for research into its causes.

None of this impressed my closest friend, currently going through a sticky bit of marital despair herself. "He wants to go out with other women and be free of responsibilities," she said. "That doesn't require much of a study to understand." I mumbled something about it all being more complex than that, but it seemed to me she had cut the Gordian knot. There isn't much new under the sun, is there, and I can't see anything very mysterious about why our divorce rates are high.

Once upon a time, before the 1969 and 1984 divorce reforms, our opinion setters all moaned about how awful it was to chafe under the bonds of indissoluble marriage. Marriage wasn't indissoluble, of course, but getting a divorce required a bit of effort. Then we rearranged society so that people could get their divorces through the post without even having to show up in court and now there seems to be unhappiness that quite a few people are doing just that.

Meanwhile, human beings try to muddle along. Actor John Cleese and his wife were in the papers this week when it was reported that they were undergoing "a trial separation which is going extremely well". People used not to call tiffs "trial separations". The wife would announce she was going back to mother. The husband would sleep on the sofa. One or other of them would pack and return a week later, all forgiven. Tiffs could be cured. The minute the procedure became formalized with the sort of boy scout earnestness that the phrase "trial separation" implies, the marriage was almost always over.

What remains a constant in marriage and divorce is the human need for monogamy and the human impulse to stray. Although Shere Hite's new study on women and love claims that 91 per cent of women divorce for reasons other than adultery, I am more inclined to sympathize with the British Social Attitudes survey which rated faithfulness as the most important factor in keeping a marriage together (86 per cent) and constant unfaithfulness as the most frequent reason (94 per cent) for its break-up.

The truth is, being human, we are a little of both stork and baboon

Human beings, after all, are a mixture of the stork and the baboon, as author George Jonas pointed out. Baboons of either sex can be seen in zoos enjoying sexual congress with any available partner without emotional consequences. Their encounters are perfunctory. They don't search each other out the next morning to analyse what happened and repeat it all. The baboons' way, though, is not the only route to happiness. Such creatures as storks also have an equally trouble-free emotional life for the opposite reason.

According to zoologists, pair-bonding species such as storks are incapable of forming more than one sexual/emotional attachment in their lives. In some bizarre cases, this mania for monogamy actually leads them to enter into lasting relationships with a member of a different species – such as the celebrated stork who fell in love with a turtle. Human beings are just fickle enough, like the baboon, to get into emotional trouble, but not sufficiently fickle to get out of it. If we were like storks we would never be tempted, and if we were like baboons we could yield to temptation gracefully. But, alas, we are human beings equipped, for better or worse, with a complex and contradictory emotional system. We are, in fact, a species of pair-bonding philanderers.

What helped increase our divorce rates, I think, was that it became fashionable in the last 20 years among the progressives in education, law, religion and the popular media to assign a new moral value to the ways of the baboon. Just as in the past people would have been condemned as "immoral" for not behaving like a stork, till recently *Cosmopolitan* magazine would have diagnosed the same condition as "repressed" or "unenlightened". The spectre of Aids may have dampened that slightly, but proponents of the new baboonism promote this attitude through concepts such as "open marriage", "liberation", "the double-standard", "sex education" or "no-fault divorce". Whatever else such concepts may try to accomplish, they have the incidental result of appearing to make casual copulation without consequence the norm in human relationships.

Well, it isn't the norm. The norm in human behaviour is what we have always been doing: seeking lasting relationships most of the time, and breaking them once in a while, temporarily or permanently, for a variety of personal reasons. The truth is, being human, we are a little of both stork and baboon. Once in a while we reach out a long hairy arm to grab whatever fleeting pleasure may present itself, but more often our impulse, like the famous stork's, is to follow another being around for a lifetime, hoping against hope that it will not turn out to be a turtle.

TALKBACK

From James Wilson,
Montpelier Row, Blackheath,
London SE3

Penny Perrick's article "Press on regardless" (February 8) does not take into account that some 20-year-olds ask for a trouser press. I was one of these sharp dressers and I took great pleasure in being part of a small minority of my peers who possessed such precision leg-wear. I look forward to my 30th birthday when, according to the article I might rejoin a minority by wearing creases. As to the present I should receive on that occasion, perhaps someone would care to pay off my 10-year-old Austin Reed account, 120 months unpaid?

From Valerie Hales,
Westcroft Crescent, Sheffield

I am a senior ward sister of a 28-bed mixed sex acute medical ward. In response to "First Person" (February 10), I would like to raise the issue of patient bed moves. As one bed falls free, the next patient arrives – *but* the patient going home may have been male and the admission may be female. So the nursing staff begin the following manoeuvre: three men from the four-bed bay (where the vacant bed lies) move into the three side-rooms; the three ladies from the side-rooms into the four-bed bay, the empty bed into the corridor to receive the admission – all interspersed with cries of "Don't forget the wardrobe contents". All moves have to be accomplished as quickly as possible as the admission is already in the *Accident and Emergency Department* and all as part of the day's work.

It raises many questions but I will just ask these two:

How can patients develop any rapport with their fellows when a disruptive bed move can occur at any time?

***How much nursing time is* occupied by such removals?**

***In my past life I must have* been a furniture remover.**

A child's eye view

Help may be at hand for tired shoppers with small children

Julie Jasper has a vision of a child-shaped world. It would include handrails at children's height in shops and public places, bannisters with rails not more than 2½ inches apart (to prevent trapped heads), checkouts and lifts built to accommodate double buggies and wall-mounted activity toys in banks to keep children quiet and customers sane.

Jasper concedes that British Rail may well balk at installing mobile climbing frames, but points out that it could include more children's drinks and meals in the buffet bar and trolleys. She would also like transport authorities in general to adopt more stringent safety measures: "Some of the new ticket barriers can trap children with their pincer-like arms."

Jasper, 43, is a mother of three, a part-time lecturer for the Pre-School Playgrounds Association and founder of the organization We Welcome Small Children, which next month publishes a guide for architects and shop moguls on how to design or adapt buildings to make life easier for tiny feet – and the larger ones padding wearily behind.

She started We Welcome in 1985 to encourage local councils and shopkeepers to be more sympathetic to downtrodden parents. There are now 61 branches nationwide, which have notched up such successes as advising Edinburgh airport on designing a mothers' room and persuading small Huddersfield shops to set up pushchair parks. Jasper hopes that the guide – called "Thinking of Small Children: access, provision and play" – will encourage similar breakthroughs.

Until now, she says, there has not been any technical information available on such problems as how much circulation space should be allowed in a lift with a double buggy, or designing a changing mat so baby doesn't take a tumble. Jasper has enlisted the help of co-authors Sue Cavanagh, who works for Women's Design Services – a commercial firm which draws up designs pertaining to all aspects of women's lives – and Jane Debono, of Camden Council's planning department. The guide's technical drawings, explaining how the improvements can be made, were handed over to Judi Sissons, an architect and a mother.

"Sadly, the British don't like children very much, partly because of historical reasons," Jasper says. "As a result, many mothers out with their children meet cold attitudes of thoughtlessness, like placing baby departments on the second floor. Another stumbling block is that only 7 per cent of architects are women, so the majority don't appreciate, for example, the battle to get through heavy, double glass doors."

TIM BISHOP

Visionary: Julie Jasper with her sons Willem and Augustus

Britain, she says, compares poorly with other countries. In Switzerland she found family train carriages with toys, changing areas, book corners with recorded stories and even a slide. (There were also Quiet Carriages for those who would rather steer clear of children.) In Denmark, banks frequently have tiny desks with pencils and notebooks.

'Many mothers out with their children meet attitudes of thoughtlessness'

"Restaurants, too, should read the guide," Jasper says. "It would be nice to see high-chairs, booster seats and plastic cutlery as part of the furniture." Swimming pools, she says, should have play-pens by the side so mothers can concentrate on older siblings while baby sits safely; more public buildings should have laminated toughened glass; airports should have play areas; and staff everywhere should be trained to like small customers.

Responses to the guide's suggestions have been mixed. Camden Council was impressed enough to insist that a crèche was incorporated into Sainsbury's new Camden store, due to open in November. But Marks & Spencer, which points out that it has installed lifts large enough for double buggies in 100 stores, is not so enthusiastic about crèches. "We are here to provide goods for customers and not a social service which frankly should be the job of the town council," a spokesman said.

Jasper says the book will be a breakthrough even if only a few of the suggestions are taken up: "Anything must be better than the present situation, where some mothers are so fed up that they simply stay inside. Our dream is to see as many facilities for children and their carers as there are now for the disabled."

Jane Bidder

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"Thinking of Small Children" (£3.50) will be available at the end of March from the Planning Department of the London Borough of Camden, The Town Hall, Euston Road, London WC1H 8EQ.

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THEATRE

LONDON

☆ **THE BEST OF FRIENDS:** Dramatized correspondence between Shaw, a Lady Abbess, and the director of the Fitzwilliam Museum. Brings Gielgud back to the West End stage.
Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-437 2663). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Tues-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 3pm, £5.50-£15.

☆ **CURTAINS:** Award-winning play transferring from Hampstead; great cast led by Annette Crosbie, Alfred Lynch and Ralph Nossek; touching, shot through with humour, though the subject is how to help granny die.
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (01-930 7765). Tube: Embankment. Mon-Thurs, 8-10.15pm, Fri and Sat 6-8.15pm and 8.45-11pm, £8.50-£13.50. Opens Tues.

☆ **THE FOREIGNER:** Patchy comedy. Nicholas Lyndhurst as a timid tourist in the US struck dumb with nerves.
Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane WC2 (01-836 3878). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat 3-5.30pm, £5-£13.50.

☆ **HAPGOOD:** New Tom Stoppard play on way to West End. Spies, physics and misunderstandings; with Nigel Hawthorne, Roger Rees, Felicity Kendal, Iain Glen.
Wimbledon Theatre, The Broadway, SW19 (01-540 0362). Tube: Wimbledon. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat Sat 3pm, £6.50-£9.

☆ **HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES:** Christopher Benjamin, Gabrielle Drake in splendidly inventive Ayckbourn comedy.
Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill SE10 (01-858 7755). Train: Greenwich (15 mins from Charing Cross). Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, £3-£10.

☆ **LOW LEVEL PANIC:** The sexual fantasies of three women as the prepare for their Saturday night out. Directed by Nancy Meckler for Womens Playhouse Trust.
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 2554). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, £4-£6.

★ **NANA:** Shared Experience's vigorous production of Zola's tale of decadent abandon in *Fin de siècle* Paris.
Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock, EC4 (01-236 5568). Tube: Blackfriars. Mon-Fri 7.30-9.30pm, Sat 8-10pm, mats Thurs 2.30-4.30pm and Sat 4.30-6.30pm, £6-£10.50.

★ **SOUTH PACIFIC:** Gemma Craven and Emile Belcourt in magnificently staged revival.
Prince of Wales Theatre, Coventry Street, W1 (01-839 5989). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 2.30pm, £7.50-£19, £8.50-£20.

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ **Beyond Reasonable Doubt:** Queens *Theatre (01-734 1166)*. . . ☆ **The Business of Murder:** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036). . . ☆ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079). . . ☆ **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). . . ★ **Follies:** Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399). . . ☆ **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/9/0). . . ☆ **Kiss Me Kate:** Savoy Theatre (01-836 8888). . . ☆ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). . . ☆ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). . . ★ **Les Misérables:** Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). . . ☆ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). . . ★ **Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). . . ☆ **Run For Your Wife:** Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216). . . ☆ **Serious Money:** Wyndhams Theatre (01-836 3028). . . ☆ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665). . . ☆ **And Then There Were None:** Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122).

OUT OF TOWN

CANTERBURY: ☆ **Princess Ivona:** Actors Touring Company on tour with Witold Gombrowicz's sinister comedy about the fate of a plain princess.
Gulbenkian Theatre, University of Kent (0227 69075), Thurs-Sat 8pm, £3.50.

LEICESTER: ☆ **Timon of Athens:** Guy Williams plays the misanthrope in welcome production of rare Shakespeare.
Haymarket Theatre, Belgrave Gate (0533 439797), Mon-Thurs 7.45pm, Fri and Sat 8.15pm, £3.50.

FILMS

■ **Also on national release**
☎ ***Advance booking possible***

CRY FREEDOM (PG): Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and liberal sentiments; with Kevin Kline and Denzel Washington (158 min).
Empire Leicester Square (01-200 0200). Progs 2.00, 5.40, 8.40, 11.45.
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 1.25, 5.00, 8.30.

■ **DRAGNET (PG):** Lavish attempt to parody the Fifties TV police series, with Dan Aykroyd and Tom Hanks. Directed by Tom Mankiewicz (106 min).
☎ **Plaza** (01-437 1234). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.15.
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Prgs 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.30, 11.15.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.20, 8.30, 11.20.
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.25.

■ **FATAL ATTRACTION (18):** A spurned lover (Glenn Close) takes revenge on Michael Douglas, his wife (Anne Archer) and family. Adrian Lyne directs (119 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 2.30, 5.20, 8.10, 11.15.
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.45, 5.30, 8.25, 11.15.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 2.30, 5.25, 8.20, 11.15.
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.15, 6.20, 9.15.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 2.30, 5.00, 8.00, 11.15.
☎ **Plaza** (01-200 0200). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 11.00, 1.20.
☎ **Screen on the Green** (01-226 3520). Progs 3.50, 6.10, 8.40, 11.15.

■ **THE LOST BOYS (15):** Adolescent vampire teenagers. The young cast includes Jason Patric, Corey Haim and Jami Gertz; Joel Schumacher directs (97 min).
☎ **Warner West End** (01-439 0791). Progs 2.05, 4.15, 6.25, 8.40, 11.15.

MANON DES SOURCES (PG): Ten years after the death of Jean de Florette, his 18-year-old daughter still haunts the hills overlooking the farm stolen from her father by Soubeyran, played by Yves Montand (120 min).
Curzon Mayfair (01-499 3737). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

A NIGHT ON THE TOWN (PG): A quiet night's baby-sitting ends in turmoil. Attractive comedy-adventure directed by Chris Columbus. Elizabeth Shue heads the young cast (102 min).
☎ **Warner West End** (01-439 0791). Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.25, 8.40, 11.10.
Odeon Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 1.25, 3.45, 6.10.

NO WAY OUT (15): Polished version of a *film noir* classic, *The Big Clock*. With Gene Hackman and Kevin Costner. Roger Donaldson directs (114 min).
Odeon Leicester Square (01-931 6111). Progs 12.45, 3.15, 5.45, 8.25, 11.15.

NUTS (18): High Society whore Claudia Draper kills a client in self-defence. Is she sane enough to stand trial? With Barbra Streisand and Richard Dreyfuss (116 mins).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.15, 6.10, 9.15.
Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 6279). Progs 12.50, 3.15, 5.40, 8.25, 11.15.
Screen on Baker Street (01-935 2772). Progs 3.50, 6.20, 8.45.
Warner West End (01-439 0791). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 11.10.

■ **ROBOCOP (18):** Violent, cold-blooded fantasy set in Detroit, with Peter Weller as the police officer reconstituted as an indestructible robot. Directed by Paul Verhoeven; with Nancy Allen (103 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Prog 8.45.
Notting Hill Coronet (01-727 6705). Prog 8.40.
Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011). Progs 1.30, 3.55, 6.20, 8.45, 11.15.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 1.50, 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.
☎ **Odeon High Street Kensington** (01-602 6644). Prog 8.30.
☎ **Leicester Square Theatre** (01-930 5252). Progs 11.10, 1.35, 4.00, 6.40, 9.30, 12.00.

■ **TEENWOLF TOO (PG):** Limp sequel to Michael J Fox's starring vehicle of 1985, with Jason Bateman as a fellow campus student with werewolf tendencies. Christopher Leitch directs. With Kim Darby and John Astin (94 min).
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.00, 4.15, 6.30, 8.45, 11.15.
Cannon Chelsea *(01-352 5096)*. Progs 2.35, 6.05.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 2.05, 4.10, 6.20, 8.35, 11.20.
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.50, 4.00, 6.10, 8.25.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 1.45, 3.55, 11.15.
Cannon Prince Charles (01-437 8181). Progs 1.55, 4.05, 6.15, 8.25, 11.15.

■ **WISH YOU WERE HERE (15):** David Leland's poignant comedy about a teenage girl's sexual adventures in a drab seaside town. Marvellous playing by Emily Lloyd (92 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 2.00, 6.25, 8.55.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 8.40, 11.20.
Cannon Royal (01-930 6915). Progs 2.40, 4.25, 6.30, 8.35, 11.15.
☎ **Odeon High Street Kensington** (01-602 6644). Prog 8.35.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 2.20, 4.30, 6.40, 8.50.

■ **WHITE MISCHIEF (18):** Glossy account of cuckoldry and murder among Kenya's "Happy Valley" set in the Forties, with Greta Scacchi, Joss Ackland and Charles Dance. Michael Radford directs (105 min).
Curzon West End (01-439 4805). Progs 2.00, 4.10, 6.20, 8.40.

WITHNAIL AND I (15): Knockabout British comedy about two out-of-work British actors trying to maintain sanity at the end of the Sixties. Written and directed by Bruce Robinson; with Paul McGann and Richard E Grant.
☎ **Odeon Haymarket** (01-930 2738). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.45, 11.30.

TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

LONDON:
1 (2) Fatal Attraction
2 (1) Robocop
3 (–) Nuts
4 (3) No Way Out
5 (4) White Mischief
6 (5) Cry Freedom
7 (–) Withnail and I
8 (6) Wish You Were Here
9 (8) Manon des Sources
10 (–) Teenwolf Too

Supplied by *Screen International*

UNITED STATES:
1 (1) Good Morning Vietnam
2 (–) Shoot To Kill
3 (–) Action Jackson
4 (4) Three Men and a Baby
5 (3) Moonstruck
6 (2) The Serpent and the Rainbow
7 (5) She's Having a Baby
8 (–) Satisfaction
9 (–) Ironweed
10 (–) Schooldaze

Supplied by: Exhibitor Relations Co Inc/*Screen International*

OUTSIDE LONDON:
1 Fatal Attraction
2 Robocop
3 Wish You Were Here
4 The Lost Boys
5 Cry Freedom

Supplied by: *Screen International*

VIDEO RENTALS:
1 Platoon
2 Lethal Weapon
3 Police Academy
4 Raw Deal
5 Space Camp

Supplied by: *Video Business*

Double measure of Scotch

The success of "Letter From America" by the Proclaimers, which reached No 3 in last year's run-up to Christmas, confirmed Charlie and Craig Reid (above) as two of the unlikeliest characters to become grist to the pop chart mill. The song gave typical emphasis to the whoops and skirls of the twins' fiercely Scottish vocal delivery, while its lyric vented their passionate, nationalist feelings about the regional and community issues that affect their homeland. The 25-year-old brothers were born in the village of Auchtermuchty in Fife. Together they left school at 16, embarked on *courses in business studies and* played in a punk band. Having moved to Edinburgh, they began performing as a duo and in 1986 landed a support slot on tour with the Housemartins. An appearance on *The Tube* in February 1987, was swiftly followed by the signing of a contract with Chrysalis Records. They still play live as an acoustic duo, with a pugnacious, crowd-pleasing intensity that embodies the odd mixture of country, folk and highland punk that underpins their music. Tonight, Hummingbird, Birmingham (021 236 4236) 8pm, £5; Sunday, Studio, Bristol (0272 276193); Monday, Cardiff University Union (0222 396421); Tuesday, Mayfair, Southampton *(0703 223076); Wednesday, National,* London NW6 (01-328 3141). ***David Sinclair***

DANCE

★ **ALICE IN WONDERLAND:** Northern Ballet's production with *Aurora's Wedding*.
Civic Theatre, Parkgate, Darlington (0325 486555) 7.30-10pm, £3.50-£5.50.

☆ **THE SLEEPING BEAUTY:** Peter Wright's production for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet.
Empire Theatre, Lime Street, Liverpool (051 709 1555), 7.30-10.30pm, £2.50-£13.

★ **LA SYLPHIDE:** London City Ballet's attractive production given with *Nutcracker Suite*.
Key Theatre, Embankment Road, Peterborough (0733 52439) 7.30-9.45pm, £6.

OPERA

☆ **MADAM BUTTERFLY:** Graham Vick's thoughtful split-level production with a formidable Butterfly in Janice Cairns.
English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3161), 7.30-10.20pm, £2-£21.50.

☆ **BITTER SWEET:** Ian Judge's new production of Noël Coward's classic. Cast includes Valerie Masterson, Ann Mackay and Gordon Sandison.
Theatre Royal, Plymouth (0752 6695951), 7.30-10pm, £6-£8.50.

★ **IL SERAGLIO:** Simple but effective Mozart production from Opera 80: Stephen Barlow conducts.
Northcott Theatre, Stocker Road, Exeter, Devon (0392 54853), 7.30-10.30pm, £6.50-£9.50.

CONCERTS

LUNCHTIME

☆ **HANSON HAYDN:** The Hanson Quartet, who are the Quartet in Residence at Aldeburgh, play Haydn's Quartet Op 64 No 6 and Ravel's Quartet.
Peter Pears Gallery, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (072 885 3543), 12.30pm, £1.

☆ **QUARTET WORKSHOP:** The Bingham Quartet rehearses, discusses with the audience, and performs Richard Paine's Quartet, Jeremy Pike's Quartet No 5 and Sidika Ozdil's Dances.
Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1 (01-491 8111), 2pm, free.

EVENING

☆ **CLASSICAL POPS:** Rossini's *William Tell* Overture, Grieg's *Peer Gynt* Suite No 1, Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* Suite and Capriccio Italien, Rachmaninov's Paganini Rhapsody (Joanna MacGregor, piano) and Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance* March No 1 are all heard from the London Concert Orchestra under Michael Reed.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30-9.30pm, £4.50-12.50.

☆ **COUPERIN/BACHS:** Douglas Boyd (oboe) with Richard Lester (cello) and Harold Lester (harpsichord) offers oboe sonatas and trio sonatas by Couperin, Telemann and J S and C P E Bach.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £2.50-£5.

☆ **ALL BEETHOVEN:** The Alberni Quartet continue their series of Ludwig's complete quartets with Opp 18 No 5, 95 and 132.
St George's, Charlotte Street, Brandon Hill, Bristol (0272 230359), 7.30pm, £4.

☆ **DIVERSE RPO:** A very mixed bag from the RPO as Yan Pascal Tortelier conducts them in Chabrier's *España*, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue (Dirk Joeres, piano) and Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*.
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, cc 01-638 8891), 7.45-9.45pm, £3.50-£13.

☆ **KRAEMER/LBO:** Nicholas Kraemer conducts the London Bach Orchestra in Handel's Concertos Grosso Op 6 Nos 5 and 10, Rameau's *Les Fêtes d'Hébé* Suite, J S Bach's Harpsichord Concerto BWV 1055 and a Concerto for Four Violins Op 7 by Locatelli.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.45pm, £4-£8.80.

☆ **ALL SCHUMANN:** The distinguished pianist Alicia de Larrocha plays Schumann's rather Hummellian *Allegro* Op 8, his entirely characteristic *Carnaval* Op 9 and his *Faschingsschwank aus Wien* Op 26.
Arts Centre, Warwick University, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry (0203 417417), 8pm, £6.50-£8.75.

ROCK

☆ **TAXI PATA PATA:** The celebrated British-based African band playing its rhythmic Zairean/Congolese world music.
Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow (01-570 0622) 8pm, £2-£3.

☆ **THE BODEANS:** Cult/roots favourites from Wisconsin making a flying visit to promote a new single, "Dreams", produced by Jerry Harrison of Talking Heads.
University of London Union, Manning Hall, Malet Street, London WC1 (01-580 9551) 7.30pm, £4.50.

☆ **THE GODFATHERS:** As heard on the debut LP, *Birth, School, Work, Death*, a spirited re-interpretation of the R'n'B beat group blueprint by chaps who weren't even born when it was first drawn up in the Sixties.
Leicester Polytechnic Students' Union, 4 Newark Close (0533 555578) 8pm, £2.

★ **ROBYN HITCHCOCK:** The former Soft Boy is on the road and on A&M Records with his new, typically eccentric album *Globe Of Frogs*. Accompanied by Morris Windsor (drums) and Chris Cox (upright bass) of the Egyptians.
Grove Community Arts Centre, School Lane, Dorchester (0305 669262) 8pm, £3-£3.50.

JAZZ

☆ **JEAN TOUSSAINT:** The ex-Blakey tenorist is now based in this country, leading a strong quartet which includes the young pianist Jason Rebello.
The Town Hall, Imperial Square, Cheltenham (0242 523690), 8pm, £4.50.

☆ **ANDY SHEPPARD:** Due to perform in Japan shortly with George Russell, the West Country reeds player is building on the success of his debut *Antilles* LP.
The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes (0908 583928) 8pm, £3.50.

★ **KENNY WHEELER QUINTET:** An all-star line-up brings together Dave Holland, Peter Erskine, John Abercrombie and John Taylor.
Colchester Arts Centre, Church Street (0206 577301) 8.30pm, £6.

☆ **HARRY EDISON:** "Sweets" to his fans, the trumpeter has worked with Basie, Sinatra and others.
Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-439 8722) 8pm-8.45pm and 9.30pm, ring for prices.

TALKS

COMMONWEALTH FUND LECTURE: "State and Society in the Guilded Age", given by Professor G Fredrickson.
University College London, Gustave Tuck Theatre, Gower Street, London WC1, 5.30pm, free.

THE WINDSOR BEAUTIES: Gallery lecture given by Mary Connatty.
National Portrait Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2, 1.10pm, free.

WALKS

A GREAT CHARLES DICKENS EXCURSION: meet St Paul's tube, 11am, £2.50.

THE FAMOUS SQUARE MILE – 2,000 YEARS OF HISTORY: meet St Paul's tube, 11am, £2.25.

AN HISTORIC PUB WALK – JACK THE RIPPER HAUNTS: meet Aldgate tube, 7.30pm, £2.25.

ON THE TRAIL OF JACK THE RIPPER: meet Whitechapel tube, 7.30pm, £3.

OTHER EVENTS

OPENING OF THE GUARDS MUSEUM: See caption.
Guards Museum, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1 (01-930 4466). Open to the public from Mon, then daily 10am-5pm, £2, child £1.

NORTHAMPTON HOLIDAY EXHIBITION: Weatherman Michael Fish opens this three-day exhibition at 12.30pm. 65 exhibitors promoting UK and continental holidays, mobile homes, timeshare, properties abroad and touring holidays. Competition, children's entertainers, jazz bands.
Northampton Moat House, Silver Street, Northampton (info 0604 22441). Today 12.30pm-7pm, tomorrow 10am-7pm, Sun 10am-6pm, free.

POOLE AND DORSET IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION: 92 stands and 78 exhibitors showing furniture, kitchens, and new appliances – both cosmetic and practical. Also nursery furniture, children's playhouses, furnishings.
Poole Arts Centre, Poole, Dorset. Today 1pm-9pm, tomorrow and Sun 10am-6pm, 50p, under-14s 25p.

The fascinating story of the footguards (as seen above), has been collected and housed under one roof for the first time. The Queen will make history this morning when she officially opens the Guards Museum in London's Wellington Barracks at 11.30am (see listing). The story of the footguards dates back nearly three and a half centuries and incorporates all five regiments: the Grenadiers, Coldstream, Welsh, Irish and Scots guards in war and peace.

GALLERIES

CAROL KNIGHT: Landscape and still-life watercolours, this artist's first one-woman show.
Burgh House, New End Square, Hampstead, London NW3 (01-431 0144). Wed-Sun 12-5pm, free, until March 2.

FOR SALE: A catholic selection of contemporary art aimed at corporate buyers.
The Minories, 74 High Street, Colchester (0206 577067). Tues-Sat 10.30-5pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, until April 3.

SEVEN INDEPENDENT ARTISTS FROM LENINGRAD: Young, irreverent, decorative painters and graphic artists.
Young Unknowns Gallery, 82 The Cut, London SE1 (01-928 3415). Mon-Fri 12-7pm, Sat 10-3pm, free, until Feb 27.

FREEDOM TO TOUCH: A display of contemporary sculpture, principally for the blind or partially sighted, which can be touched or activated.
Laing Art Gallery, Higham Place, Newcastle (091 232 7734). Tues-Fri 10-5.30pm, Sat 10-4.30pm, Sun 2.30-5.30pm, free, until March 13.

STEPHEN FARTHING: Paintings from the last 10 years by an artist whose recent figurative work explores contemporary anxieties.
Gardner Centre Gallery, University of Sussex, Brighton (0273 685447). Mon-Sat 10-6pm, free, until March 20. Also **Towner Gallery,** Borough Lane, Eastbourne (0323 21535). Tues-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until March 20.

GOLD OF THE PHARAOHS: An exhibition of ancient treasure from the tombs of the Egyptian Tanite kings.
City Art Centre, *2 Market Street,* Edinburgh (031 225 2383), Mon, Tues and Sat 10-6pm, Wed-Fri 10-9pm, Sun 12-6pm, £1, *until April 30.*

OLD MASTER DRAWINGS: Mainly landscapes, lent by the University of Leiden printroom, including items by Ruysdael and Rembrandt.
Hunterian Art Gallery, The University, Hillhead, Glasgow (041 339 8855), Mon-Fri 9.30-5pm, Sat 9.30-1pm, free, until April 2.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

ST GEORGE AND THE DRAGON: Performance by the Puppeteers Company in Aldeburgh Cinema. April 2.
Aldeburgh Foundation, High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (072 885 3543).

ART GARFUNKEL: Concerts in London (April 13-15), Bournemouth (April 7), Birmingham (April 9), and Brighton (April 17).
Royal Albert Hall 01-589 9465, **Bournemouth International Centre** 0202 297297, **Birmingham International Centre** 021 780 4133, *Brighton Centre* 0273 202881.

LAST CHANCE

COMIC ICONOCLASM: Paintings by artists such as Roy Lichtenstein who have used comic book imagery in their work.
Cornerhouse, 70 Oxford Street, Manchester (061 228 7621). Ends Sun.

MARIO MERZ: New work by Italian sculptor, and installation artist.
Anthony d'Offay, 9 Dering Street, *London W1 (01-499 4100). Ends* today.

CADBURY'S NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN'S ART: 40th exhibition of art and craft from children throughout the country.
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021 235 2800). Last week.

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; **Films:** Geoff Brown; **Concerts:** Max Harrison; **Opera:** Hilary Finch; **Rock:** David Sinclair; **Jazz:** Clive Davis; **Dance:** John Percival; **Galleries:** David Lee; **Walks and Talks:** Greta Carslaw; **Other Events:** Judy Froshaug; **Bookings:** Anne Whitehouse.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

PELAGIC
(a) Pertaining to the ocean, from the Greek *pelagos* sea; in biology the epithet applies to plants and animals inhabiting the surface of the sea far from land.

FAIRBANKS
(b) In Contract Bridge a hand full of kings and queens, because of the pleasure Douglas Fairbanks Junior takes in the company of royals.

GUSSY UP
(b) American slang for dressing in one's best clothes, perhaps from gusset, perhaps from some person or place called Augusta, perhaps from the old tennis bimbo Gorgeous Gussie Moran.

APODOSIS
(a) In a conditional clause the if part is the protasis, the then part is the apodosis; from the Greek for a giving back or consequential clause.

TOURNAMENT OF THE MIND

Answer from page 1:
THIS CODE IN TIMES EVEN RHYMES

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 638 8891/628 8795 Ton't 7.45 ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Yan Pascal Tortelier (cond) Dirk Joeres (piano).

EXHIBITIONS

EMPERORS TERRACOTTA WARRIORS. Royal Horticultural Societies Old Hall, Vincent Square, SW1. £4.50 Adults, £3 child. 09.30 - 21.00 except Tuesday 09.30 - 18.00. W/E 10.00 - 21.00. December 14th - Feb 20th. Tel: 01-828 2768.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258. ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. Ton't 7.30 Madam Butterfly. Tomor 7.30 Orpheus in the Underworld.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911. Stdby info 836 6903. S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. Ton't 7.30 THE ROYAL OPERA Jenufa. Tomor 7.30 THE ROYAL BALLET The Sons of Horus/Symphonic Variations/ La Fin du jour. Ballet casting info 01 240 9815.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call CC 24 hr 7 day 240 7200 LAST 2 PERFS Eves 7.30 MOMIX - Dance from the USA. Prev 23 Feb. Opens 24 Feb: New Sadler's Wells Opera present: Noel Coward's BITTER SWEET.

THEATRES

ADELPHI 836 7611 or 240 7913 /4 CC 741 9999/ 836 7358/ 379 6433 First call 24hr cc 240 7200 (no bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 NOW BOOKING TO 2 OCT ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" S Express

ALBERY 836 3878 cc 379 6565 741 9999 379 4444 240 7200 Groups 836 3962 NICHOLAS LYNDHURST "A Born Comedian" Gdn Larry Shue's new hit comedy THE FOREIGNER "The funniest play of the decade" NY Times. Eves 8 Mats Thurs & Sat 3. Now Booking to June

ALDWYCH 836 6404 0641 cc 379 6233/741 9999 First Call 01 836 3464 (booking fee) RED. PREVS FROM MARCH 3 Opens Mar 8. Eves 7.30 Sat 4 & 8 FELICITY KENDAL NIGEL HAWTHORNE ROGER REES in HAPGOOD A new play by TOM STOPPARD Directed by PETER WOOD

ALDWYCH 01 836 6404/0641 cc 379 6233/741 9999 First call 836 3464 (bkg fee) Eves 7.30. Saturday 5 & 8.30 LAST WEEK OF LTD SEASON BEST ACTOR OF THE YEAR MICHAEL GAMBON In National Theatre production of A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE By Arthur Miller Directed by Alan Ayckbourn

AMBASSADORS 01-836 6111/2 cc 836 1171. First Call (24 hrs/7 days) 240 7200 (bkg fee). Eves 7.30, Wed mat 3, Sat 4 & 8 Royal Shakespeare Company's LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES Winner of 4 "BEST PLAY" awards. Seats sometimes available - Call Today.

APOLLO 437 2663 CC 434 3598/9 CC with bkg fee 1st Call 24hr/7 days 240 7200. Open All Hrs 379 4444/CCTB 741 9999. JOHN GIELGUD ROSEMARY HARRIS RAY McANALLY THE BEST OF FRIENDS by HUGH WHITEMORE Directed by James Roose-Evans FOR LIMITED SEASON ONLY Tues to Sat 8pm. Sat mat 3pm

APOLLO VICTORIA SS 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Groups 828 6188 CC Open All Hours 379 4444 1st Call 240 7200 K Prowse 741 9999 Groups 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 "BREATHTAKING" BBC STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyric by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN SOME SEATS AVAIL THIS WEEK OAP's £5 on Tues mats NOW BOOKING TO SEPT

BARBICAN THEATRE 01 638 8891cc (Groups 930 6123) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY "MARVELLOUS SHOW... MAGICAL" S. Times THE WIZARD OF OZ FINAL PERFS!!! Some tkts still avail for 22-26 Feb 7.30. BOOK TODAY!.

BARBICAN THEATRE 01 638 8891cc (Mon-Sun 10am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY FINAL PERFS Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.0 & 7.30!! THE WINTER'S TALE "Highly recommended" S.Times THE PIT FINAL PERFS Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.0 & 7.30!! DEATHWATCH/THE MAIDS by Jean Genet. SPECULATORS final perfs 22-27 Feb. BOOKING NOW OPEN FOR 1988 SEASON THE JEW OF MALTA from 7 March. TWELFTH NIGHT from 31 March. THE MERCHANT OF VENICE from 21 April. JULIUS CAESAR from 9 June.

CAMBRIDGE Box Office & CC 379 5299 741 9999 First Call 240 7200 (bkg fee) 379 4444 Group Sales 930 6123 DIANE LANGTON & JOSEPHINE BLAKE in the West End Premiere of THE RINK The Musical Mon-Fri 7.45 Mat Thurs 3.0 Sat 4.30 & 8.15 Caroline O'Connor plays Angel on Thursday Matinee

COMEDY 01-930 2578/8778 cc 839 1438/741 9999//379 4444/ with bkg fee 240 7200 Group Sales 930 6123. DAVID SUCHET SASKIA REEVES "THE MOST BRILLIANTLY TOUCHING PERFORMANCES I HAVE SEEN THIS YEAR" Punch SEPARATION by Tom Kempinski directed by Michael Attenborough "VERY FUNNY. KILL FOR A TICKET" Ms London Mon-Thu 8.0, Fri & Sat 6.0 & 8.45

COMEDY THEATRE 01-930 2578 VANESSA REDGRAVE TIMOTHY DALTON in Eugene O'Neill's A TOUCH OF THE POET Directed by David Thacker "A magnificent revival... sumptuously acted...It is quite simply enthralling" Guardian - Transfers from the Young Vic March 8. First call 24hr 7 day credit card bookings 01-240 7200. Open All Hours 01-379 4444 CCTB 01-741 9999 (Bkg fee).

COTTESLOE National Theatre 928 2252 Tomor. Mon 7.30 A PLACE WITH THE PIGS new play by Athol Fugard.

CRITERION S 930 3216 CC 379 6565/ 379 4444/741 9999. Groups 836 3962. Eves 8. Thur mat 2.30. Sat 5.30 & 8.30 "BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" D Mail The Theatre of Comedy Company RALPH BATES BRIAN MURPHY LIONEL JEFFRIES PATRICIA BRAKE HELEN GILL RON ALDRIDGE GRAHAM JAMES RUN FOR YOUR WIFE! LONDON'S LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY Written and directed by RAY COONEY Over 2000 side-splitting perfs "SHOULD RUN FOR LIFE" S. Ex

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 240 8230. Sats 11.15 pm Moosehead Theatresport the Serious Alternative Cabaret. Tkts £5.00 (£3.50 Concs).

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & CC 01-836 8108. 01-240 9066/7. Open All Hours 01 379 4444 (no bkg fee) First Call 24hr 7 day cc bkgs on 01 240 7200 (no bkg fee). David Merrick's 42ND STREET A SHOW FOR ALL THE FAMILY Winner of all the best Musical Awards for 1984 voted BEST MUSICAL STANDARD DRAMA AWARDS voted BEST MUSICAL LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD voted BEST MUSICAL PLAYS & PLAYERS LONDON THEATRE CRITICS AWARD Evgs 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0, Sat 5.0 & 8.30. Reduced price mat Weds. Students and OAP's standby. Group Sales 930 6123 4TH GREAT YEAR

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122 cc 836 9837/379 4444/240 7200/ 741 9999 Groups 930 6123 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S AND THEN THERE WERE NONE "QUITE IRRESISTIBLE" D Mir "TRUE COMEDY THRILLER" LBC Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 5

DOMINION THEATRE 580 8845 580 9562. Tel CC bkgs FIRST CALL 24hr 7 day 836 2428 NO BKG FEE CC 741 9999 or 379 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 DAVE CLARK'S TIME THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE THE PORTRAYAL OF 'AKASH' BY LAURENCE OLIVIER Mon-Fri 7.30 Sat 4 & 8.15 SPECIAL CONCESSIONS at £7 all perfs except Fri & Sat eves for OAP's, UB40's, students & under 16's avail from 3pm (Sat from 12 noon) NOW BOOKING TO SEPT

FORTUNE THEATRE 836 2238 cc with bkg fee First Call 24hr/7 days 240 7200/CCTB 741 9999/Open All Hours 379 4444 Group Sales 930 6123. Eves 8.00. Wed mats 3.00. Sats 5.30 & 8.30. DINSDALE LANDEN HILARY TINDALL and JEREMY BULLOCH in DANGEROUS OBSESSION By N.J. Crisp "TENSION JUNKIES WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED" Daily Mail

GARRICK 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (24hr no bkg fee). 741 9999 (no bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) WILLIAM GAUNT ROWENA ROBERTS IAN TALBOT WHEN DID YOU LAST SEE YOUR...TROUSERS? by Ray Galton & John Antrobus Eves 8. Mats Tues 3. Sat 5 OVER 350 PERFS! LAST 3 WEEKS!

GLOBE THEATRE 01 437 3667/ 741 9999. First Call 836 2428 (bkg fee). MAGGIE SMITH MARGARET TYZACK in LETTICE AND LOVAGE a new comedy by PETER SHAFFER with RICHARD PEARSON directed by MICHAEL BLAKEMORE Evgs 7.45, Sat Mat 3.00

GREENWICH THEATRE 01-858 7755. cc 01 853 3800 (no bkg fee) Evenings 7.45 Mat Sat 2.30 HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES "ALAN AYCKBOURN'S very funny comedy...a timely revival, perfectly directed" F.Times.

HAMPSTEAD 722 9301 THE FILM SOCIETY by Jon Robin Baitz. Mon - Fri 8pm Sat 4.30 & 8pm. "The best & best acted drama about South Africa since Fugard's "Master Harold and the boys" S.Exp. "Denis Lawson is brilliant" Times.

HER MAJESTYS Haymarket 839 2244 CC 24hr 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS CLAIRE MOORE MICHAEL BALL Rebecca Caine plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 Sold out until Sept. Watch Press for details of New Booking Period

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL Box Office & cc 01-930 9832 MICHAEL HORDERN IRENE WORTH "A comic gem" Gdn. "A glorious performance" D.Tel and MICHAEL DENISON "...Nimble and Mercilessly Perceptive" S. Times in YOU NEVER CAN TELL by Bernard Shaw Toby Robertson's "splendidly choreographed production" D.Tel Evgs 7.30 Mats Weds & Sats 3.00 First Call 24hr 7-day cc bkgs 01-240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 01-379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123

LONDON PALLADIUM Twice Daily 2.30 & 7.30 TOMMY CANNON & BOBBY BALL with MARTI WEBB Derek Griffiths Barbara Windsor Cheryl Baker Peter Howitt with John Inman in the Lavish New Production of BABES IN THE WOOD with Special Guest Star ROD HULL & EMU "THE BEST PANTOMIME I HAVE EVER SEEN" F.Times Box Office 01 437 7373 Major CC accepted. First Call 24 hr 7 day cc bkgs. 01-240 7200 Open All Hours 01-379 4444 CCTB 01-741 9999 (No bkg fee) Group Sales 01-930 6123 Special Party Concessions apply Box Office.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 01 741 2311 Eves 7.45pm Cheek by Jowl's MACBETH. LAST WEEK! STUDIO: Eves 8pm BROWN BLUES. (Perrier Award Winners). Extended to 20 Feb - KIT & THE WIDOW. 10pm.

LYRIC W1 437 3686/734 5166 RUSS ABBOT ONE FOR THE ROAD By Willy Russell Russ Abbot must leave 23 April. Evgs 7.30 Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.40 1st Call 24 hr 7 day cc 240 7200. CCTB 741 9999 (No Bkg Fee) Grps 930 6123.

LYTTELTON National Theatre 928 2252. Today, Tomor 10.30 & 2.00 THE PIED PIPER musical show for children by Adrian Mitchell. Ton't, Tomor (last perfs) 7.45 FATHERS & SONS new play by Brian Friel, after the novel by Ivan Turgenev.

MAYFAIR CC 629 3036 379 4444 Mon Thu 8 Fri & Sat 5.40 & 8.10 RICHARD TODD in "The Best Thriller for years" S Mir THE BUSINESS OF MURDER "An unabashed winner" S Exp "Sensational" Times 7TH THRILLING YEAR!

MERMAID THEATRE 01-236 5568/638 8891 cc 741 9999 & cc (with bkg fee) 240 7200 EMILE ZOLA'S NANA "REEKS OF SEX & PLEASURE" T. Out. Eves 7.30, Thur mat 2.30 Sat 4.30 & 8.00 THUR MAT ALL SEATS £6.

NATIONAL THEATRE CC 01-928 2252 CC Agencies. bkg fee: 379 4444/240 7200/741 9999 See OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/ COTTESLOE Cheap seats days of perfs from 10am.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 405 0072 CC 404 4079 OPEN ALL HOURS 379 4444. Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches. Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT MUSICAL CATS SEATS AVAILABLE TUES MATS AND SOME EVENINGS Group Bookings 01 930 6123 or 01 405 1567. NOW BOOKING TO JUNE

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 LIMITED SEASON 11 March - 9 April THE TUTOR By Lenz, adapted by Brecht directed by Angelika Hurwicz

OLIVIER National Theatre 928 2252. Ton't, Tomor 6.00 (Last perfs) COUNTRYMANIA by Carlo Goldoni in a version by Mike Alfreds (£7 tkts avail in advance).

PALACE THEATRE 434 0909 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 "THE SHOW OF ALL SHOWS" Newsweek Winner of 8 Tony Awards inc BEST MUSICAL LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval "FIGHT TO GET A TICKET" LBC NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 24

PICCADILLY 437 4506 CC 379 6565/4444 Open All Hours/ 741 9999 Grp 836 3962. "AN UNSTOPPABLE SUCCESS" D. Express BLUES IN THE NIGHT LOW PRICE SHOWS FRI & SAT 6.30. Mon-Thu 8, Fri & Sat 6.30 & 9.

PLAYHOUSE 839 4401. CC 836 2428 741 9999/379 4444 no bkg fee Grps 240 7941. RUTH MADOC is KAY GOODMAN in NITE CLUB CONFIDENTIAL The "New" '50s Musical Comedy Playing From 27 Feb

PLAYHOUSE 839 4401. CC 836 2428 741 9999/379 4444 no bkg fee Grps 240 7941. RUTH MADOC is KAY GOODMAN in NITE CLUB CONFIDENTIAL The New "50s" Musical Comedy Red Price Previews From 27 Feb

PRINCE EDWARD 734 8951 ALL tel cc bkgs FIRST CALL 24 hour 7 day on 836 3464 Group Sales 930 6123. Eves 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 2.30 BEST MUSICAL 1986 Drama Magazine CHESS "A GRAND MASTER OF A SHOW" Newsweek

PRINCE OF WALES 839 5989 GEMMA CRAVEN EMILE BELCOURT RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S SOUTH PACIFIC "WALL-TO-WALL SHOW STOPPERS" D Exp "TERRIFIC" Times "A Great Musical" S Times Monday - Saturday 7.30 Matinees Wed & Sat 2.30 Credit Cards 24 hrs 01 836 3464 Group Sales 930 6123

QUEENS 734 1166/0261/0120 cc 379 4444/741 9999 24hr 7day cc 836 2428 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123. FRANK FINLAY WENDY CRAIG BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT "BRILLIANT" PA "A TRIUMPH" D Exp "A SMASH HIT" The People by JEFFREY ARCHER DAVID LANGTON JEFFRY WICKHAM ANDREW CRUICKSHANK Directed by DAVID GILMORE Mon-Fri 8 Mat Thu 3 Sat 5 & 8.30 SEATS AVAILABLE AT SOME PERFS.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR CC 734 1593 Mon-Sat two shows nightly 8pm & 10pm. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA The Greatest Erotic Entertainment in the West End.

ROYAL COURT S CC 730 1745. Until 27 Feb Royal Court Theatre presents Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester production of A WHOLLY HEALTHY GLASGOW by Iain Heggie. Dir by Richard Wilson. Mon - Sat 8pm, Mat tomorrow 4.00pm.

ROYALTY WC2 01 831 0660 CC 01 240 7200 (bkg fee). From 11 March - 30 April JEAN ANDERSON JOHN DUTTINE PAUL EDDINGTON ANNA QUAYLE DOROTHY TUTIN JACK WATLING in TERENCE RATTIGAN'S THE BROWNING VERSION & HARLEQUINADE Eves 8 pm (17 Mar 7 pm) Mats Sat 5 pm, Wed 3 pm.

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888 CC 379 6219/836 0479. CC (with bkg fee) Open All Hours 379 4444/First Call 240 7200/CCTB 741 9999. Group Sales 930 6123 Eves 7.30, mats Wed & Sat 3.00 WINNER OF 2 OLIVIER AWARDS 1987 "THE BEST MUSICAL IN LONDON" N.Y. Post Royal Shakespeare Company in KISS ME KATE with JAMES SMILLIE TIM FLAVIN ANDREE BERNARD "A DREAM TO SEE" D. Exp.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE 379 5399 24hrs cc 379 4444 (bkg fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) 741 9999 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 BEST MUSICAL Laurence Olivier Awards 1987 Drama Magazine Awards 1987 Plays & Players Award 1987 Standard Drama Awards 1987 BEST MUSICAL DIANA RIGG JULIA McKENZIE DANIEL MASSEY DAVID HEALY & DOLORES GRAY FOLLIES The Sondheim/Goldman Musical "A TRULY FANTASTIC EVENING" F.T. Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3. APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS Box office phones open 9am-9pm Discounts available for groups for Wed Mats. Sun 28th Feb ONLY at 7.00 BENNY GREEN says "THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!" £7.50 (Concs available)

ST MARTIN'S 01-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0 36TH YEAR OF AGATHA CHRISTIE'S THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND 836 2660 cc 836 4143/5190 1st Call 24hr 836 3464 (bkg fee) Groups 930 6123 BARRY HUMPHRIES "THE GREATEST COMIC ENTERTAINER OF OUR TIME" Ind is BACK WITH A VENGEANCE! "BY FAR THE FUNNIEST NEW SHOW OF THE YEAR... PHENOMENAL, EXPLOSIVE AND ENTERTAINING" Obs Mon-Fri 7.30 Sat 2.30 & 8. Season extended to June 11

STRATFORD UPON AVON (0789) 295623. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY at RST. CC with bkg fee 1st Call 01 240 7200 and all usual ticket agents. RSC's Spectacular Musical Carrie - Sold Out. Swan Theatre Visitor's Season of Concerts & Theatres Booking for new Stratford Season Now Open. Stop - Over Meal/ticket package (0789) 414999.

VAUDEVILLE 836 9987/5645 PAULINE COLLINS in SHIRLEY VALENTINE By Willy Russell Directed by Simon Callow "Husbands, wives, sons, daughters, friends and lovers treat yourselves" D. Mail. Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed 2.30 1st Call 24hr 7 day cc 836 2428 (bkg fee) CCTB 741 9999 (no bkg fee)

VICTORIA PALACE Box Office & CC 834 1317 cc 741 9999 1st Call 24hr 7 day 240 7200 (bkg fee) Open All Hours 379 4444 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123. ROBERT HARDY & VIRGINIA McKENNA in WINNIE A New Musical Prevs from May 19

WESTMINSTER 834 0283 CC 834 0048 741 9999 (no bkg fee) 240 7200 - 24 hrs 7 days (bkg fee)- 379 4444 Open All Hrs (bkg fee) FROM 9 MARCH THE MIRACLE WORKER "Stunning..." Scotsman

WHITEHALL 01 930 7765/839 4455 cc 379 6565/741 9999/379 4444/bkg fee 240 7200 Grps 836 3962 THE NEW TRIPLE AWARD WINNING COMEDY Annette Crosbie Sheila Ballantine Alfred Lynch Ralph Nossek Philip Bird Marty Cruickshank Gwen Nelson Stella Moray "AS FINE A PLAY AND PLAYING AS YOU WILL FIND THIS SIDE OF PARADISE" Daily Mail CURTAINS by Stephen Bill "EXPLOSIVELY FUNNY" Times Now Previewing Mon - Thurs 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 pm (Opens 22 Feb 7pm)

WYNDHAM'S 836 3028 CC 379 6565/4444 (no bkg fee) and 741 9999/240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 836 3962. BEST PLAY Olivier Awards 87 And 4 other major Awards Royal Court production of Caryl Churchill's SERIOUS MONEY Directed by Max Stafford-Clark Mon to Thu 8.0 Fri 5.0 & 8.15, Sat 4.0 & 8.15

ART GALLERIES

NEW GRAFTON GALLERY 49 Church Rd, Barnes SW13 01-748 8850 Bernard Myers and Alexandra Lumley Until 12 March

BRITISH LIBRARY, Gt Russell Street. London WC1. ARMENIAN ILLUMINATED GOSPEL-BOOKS. Mon-Sat 10-5. Sun. 2.30-6. Adm. Free.

CRANE KALMAN GALLERY 178 Brompton Rd. SW3. 01-584 7566. BRITISH ART of the 20th Cent. Remarkable works by:- Ben Nicholson, Graham Sutherland, Wyndham Lewis, Sir Matthew Smith, Ivon Hitchens, L.S. Lowry, B. Hepworth, Winifred Nicholson, Mary Newcomb, etc. Daily 10-6. Sats 10-4. Until the end of February.

FINE ART SOCIETY 148 New Bond St. W1. 01-629 5116. GILBERT LEDWARD RA. Closing Feb 19.

FISCHER FINE ART 30 King St. St. James's, SW1. 839 3942. PATRICK GRAHAM - Bring Flowers, Bring Candles. First London Exhibition & HECTOR McDONNELL - East & West. Till 4 March. Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30.

MEDICI GALLERIES, 7 Grafton St. W1. 629 5675. Exhibition of Recent Paintings by ROBERT KING. 19 Feb to 10 March. Mon-Fri 9-5.30.

PARKIN GALLERY 11 Motcomb St. SW1. 01-235 8144. ROSE CECIL - Recent Work.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Piccadilly W1. 01-734 9052. Open daily 10-6 inc. Sun. (reduced rate Sun until 1.45). AGE OF CHIVALRY : ART IN PLANTAGENET ENGLAND 1200 - 1400. Last week - closes 6th March. Special half-term family offer until 26th February: 1 adult - 1 child free. (Summer Exhibition entry forms available until 10th March).

TATE GALLERY, Millbank SW1. YOUNG TURNER. Until 20 Mar. DOUGLAS COOPER COLLECTION. Until 4 Apr. DAVID BOMBERG. Until 8 May. Recorded info. 01-821 7128

THACKERAY GALLERY 18 Thackeray St. W8. 937 5883. HANS SCHWARZ - Recent Paintings of Venice. Until 4 March.

CINEMAS

CAMDEN PLAZA opp. Camden Town tube 485 2443 HAIL HAIL ROCK 'N' ROLL (PG) Starring Chuck Berry. 1.10 3.35, 6.05 8.35.

CHELSEA CINEMA Kings Road SW3 351 3742 John Huston's THE DEAD (U) 1.40 3.30 5.20 7.15 9.10.

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 499 3737. Yves Montand in MANON DES SOURCES (PG) Film at 1.15 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.30. "It has the mark of a classic" Times.

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. off Charing Cross Rd 240 9661 ALEC GUINNESS & DEREK JACOBI in LITTLE DORRIT (U) Part 1: Mon, Wed, 12.30: Fri, Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs, 4.00: Fri, Mon, Wed 7.30. Part 2: Fri, Sat, Tues, Thurs 12.30: Mon, Wed 4.00: Sat, Sun, Tues, Thurs, 7.30.

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 439 4805. GRETA SCACCHI & CHARLES DANCE in WHITE MISCHIEF (18) Film at 2.00 (not Sun) 4.10 6.20 8.40.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE 930 5252 (Enq)/930 7615 (24 hr Access/ Visa/ AmEx Bookings) ROBOCOP (18) Sep progs Daily 11.10 (Not Sun) 1.35 4.00 6.40 9.30. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 12.15 All progs bookable in advance.

LUMIERE CINEMA St Martin's Lane WC2 379 3014/836 0691 Stephen Frears' SAMMY AND ROSIE GET LAID (18) 2.15 4.25 6.40 8.55 Late Show Fri & Sat 11.15 pm.

MINEMA 45 KNIGHTSBRIDGE 235 4225 The British Premiere 90 DAYS Mail Order Romance (15) Daily: 3.0 5.0 7.0 9.0

ODEON HAYMARKET (839 7697) WITHNAIL AND I (15) sep progs Daily 1.00 3.30 6.00 8.45. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.30pm. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone bookings welcome.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Info 930 4250 / 4259. NO WAY OUT (15) Sep progs. Doors open Daily 12.45 3.15 5.45 8.25 Late Night Show Fri & Sat Doors open 11.15pm. All progs bookable in advance. Credit Card Hot Line (Access/Visa/ Amex) 930 3232 or 839 1929. 24 hour service.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (723 2011) ROBOCOP (18) Sep progs Daily 1.30 3.55 6.20 8.45. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.15pm. All seats bookable in advance. Access and Visa telephone welcome.

RENOIR Brunswick Sq. WC1 (RUSSELL SQUARE TUBE) 837 8402
1. Eric Rohmer's 4 ADVENTURES OF REINETTE & MIRABELLE (U) 2.25 4.30 6.40 8.50.
2. ANGEL DUST (Poussière d'Ange) (15) 2.40 4.45 6.50 9.00

صكتا من الاهل

صورة عن الاصل

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Peter Davalle

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM.

6.35 Edgar Kennedy in Vocalising (b/w). **6.55 Weather.**

7.00 Breakfast Time with Jeremy Paxman and Sally Jones. Includes national and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30**; regional news and travel reports at **7.15, 7.45** and **8.15**; weather at **7.25, 7.55** and **8.25.** Plus, the latest news from the Winter Olympics in Calgary.

8.30 Laverne and Shirley. American comedy series **8.55** Regional news and weather.

9.00 News and weather followed by **Open Air** presented by Eamonn Holmes

10.00 News and weather followed by **Going for Gold** (r). **10.25** *Children's BBC.* Andy Crane with programme details and birthday greetings followed by **Play School** (r) and **The Wombles** (r).

10.55 Five to Eleven. A reading by Patricia Routledge **11.00 News** and weather followed by **Open Air** presented by Susan Rae and Bob Wellings.

12.00 News and weather followed by *Olympic Report, introduced by* Steve Rider. Men's figure skating and speed skating are featured in this programme **12.55** Regional news and weather.

1.00 One O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Weather **1.30 Neighbours.** Mike cannot understand what he has done wrong — until he sees the *contents of Mrs Mangel's letter.*

1.50 Film: Heaven Knows Mr Allison (1957) starring Deborah Kerr and Robert Mitchum. Comedy drama, set on a small Pacific island, about a US Marine who is washed ashore to find it occupied not by the Japanese but by a solitary nun. *The unlikely couple learn to* live with enemy bombardments and each other. *Directed by* John Huston.

3.30 Ask Margo. Citizens' rights advice from Margo MacDonald **3.40 Lifeline.** (r).

3.50 Corners. *Young people's* questions answered **4.10** *SuperTed* (r). **4.15 Jackanory.** Bernard Cribbins with part five of Anthony Smith's *Which Animal Are You?* **4.30 Knock Knock!** with Steve Colman and Peter Simon. The first of a new series.

4.55 Newsround Extra. Terry Baddoo reports from a training school for jockeys. **5.10 Grange Hill.** Episode 14 (of 20). (Ceefax) **5.35 Neighbours** (r).

6.00 Six O'Clock News with Sue Lawley and Andrew Harvey. Weather. **6.35 London Plus.**

7.00 Wogan. Tonight's guests are Sir John Mills and some of those connected with the sell-out *Mack and Mabel* musical — Jerry Herman, George Hearn and Georgia Brown.

7.40 Blankety Blank. Joining Les Dawson this week are Pamela Armstrong, June Brown, Gary Davies, Samantha Fox, Henry Kelly and Kenny Lynch. (Ceefax)

8.15 Dynasty. Alexis is preoccupied with thwarting her ex-husband's political aspirations. (Ceefax)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Debbie Thrower. Regional news and weather.

9.30 Rockcliffe's Babies investigate *cases of arson; a Chinese take-*away that has been asked for *protection money;* and some disappearing scaffolding. (Ceefax)

10.25 John Mills — Eighty Years On. *A tribute to the actor* who will soon be celebrating 60 years on stage and screen. (Ceefax)

11.15 Film: Morning Departure (1950, b/w) starring John Mills and *Richard Attenborough. Royal* Navy drama about the crew of a *submarine trapped 90 feet* below the surface. Directed by Roy Baker.

12.50am Weather.

BBC2

6.55 Open University: Measuring the Earth and the Moon. Ends at **7.20. 9.00 Ceefax.**

9.30 *Daytime on Two:* Muriel Grey investigates Scotland's built environment **9.52** Part six of *Geordie Racer* **10.15** A group of children follow the Glasgow Marathon route by bus **10.38** Racism and how it can be fought **11.00** Storytime **11.18** Children and computers **11.35** A trip down a coal mine **12.00** English: wartime propaganda **12.35** Teenagers get a taste of fame and learn to cope with it **1.05** A French jockey-training *establishment catering for both* young men and young women **1.20** For the young **2.00 News** and weather followed by a series for four- and five-year olds.

2.15 Weekend Outlook (r).

2.20 Crufts 88. Angela Rippon and Peter Purves attend the early rounds of last week's show at Earls Court with highlights of the working, toy and utility groups, plus the choosing of the Crufts Supreme Champion. The *commentator is Mike Stockman.*

3.00 News and weather followed by *Olympic Match of the Day.* Today's featured ice hockey match is between Canada and Finland.

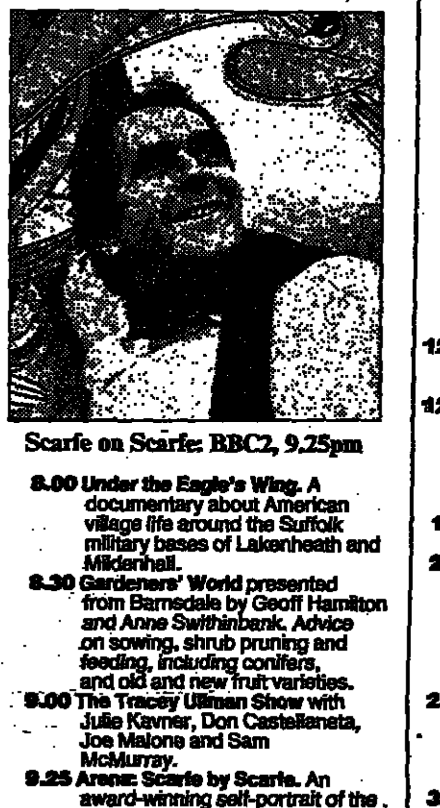
3.50 News, regional news and weather.

4.00 Catchword. Word game presented by Paul Cola.

4.30 River Journeys. Russell Braddon travels Australia's Murray River from its source to the sea (r). (Ceefax)

5.25 Olympic Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. *Action from the figure skating,* ice hockey and speed skating events, plus news of the men's luge double event and the men's 15km cross-country skiing.

7.30 Scene Plays: This Year's Model, by Tony Marchant. The *story of a 16-year-old girl who* wants to become a photographic model. Sadie is convinced by her friend Mary that she should use her figure to her advantage, so with her mother as chaperone she visits a *modelling agency. Starring* Jenny Jay (r).



Scarfe on Scarfe: BBC2, 9.25pm

8.00 Under the Eagle's Wing. A documentary about American village life around the Suffolk military bases of Lakenheath and Mildenhall.

8.30 Gardeners' World presented from Barnsdale by Geoff Hamilton *and Anne Swithinbank. Advice* on sowing, shrub pruning and *feeding, including* conifers, and old and new fruit varieties.

9.00 The Tracey Ullman Show with Julie Kavner, Don Castellaneta, Joe Malone and Sam McMurray.

9.25 Arena: Scarfe by Scarfe. An *award-winning self-portrait of the* acerbic catoonist, aided and abetted by his former *Private Eye* colleagues Willie Rushton, Peter Cook and Richard Ingrams, and *Sunday Times* editors past and present Harold Evans and *Andrew Neil (r).*

10.25 Newsnight. The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. **11.10 Weather.**

11.15 Olympic Report. Highlights of *the day's competitions in Calgary.*

11.45 Film: Rachel, Rachel (1968) starring Joanne Woodward and Estelle Parsons. The story of a middle-aged spinster school teacher, living with her mother, who tries to revitalize her life. Directed by Paul Newman. Ends at **1.30am.**

ITV/LONDON

6.00 TV-am begins with cartoons *and a comedy series followed at* **7.00** by part one of Good *Morning Britain presented by* Richard Keys. At **8.00** in part two Keys is joined by Mike Morris. After Nine includes astrologer Russell Grant.

9.25 *Thames news.*

9.30 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity charades game presented by Michael Parkinson. This morning Lionel Blair and Liza Goddard are *joined by Fenella* Fielding, Linda Lusardi, Kenny *Lynch, Anneka Rice, Jimmy* Tarbuck and Bernie Winters **10.00 Santa Barbara 10.25 News** headlines.

10.30 The Time. . .The Place. . . Mike Scott chairs a discussion on selling oneself at a job interview **11.10 Rainbow.** Learning about teeth with the aid of puppets (r). **11.25 Thames news** headlines.

11.30 Threescore Years and Then? The first of a new series of six programmes on how retirement affects the way we relate to others **12.00 Gas Street.** Music and chat show presented by Suzi Quatro.

12.30 News with Julia Somerville **12.50 Thames news.**

1.00 Chain Letters. Word association game presented by *Jeremy Beadle* **1.30 Man in a Suitcase.** McGill, an ex-CIA agent, *investigates the truth behind* the charisma of a well-loved Jesuit priest in Africa. Starring Richard Bradford, Patrick Allen and Colin Blakely (r).

2.30 In Loving Memory. Comedy series starring Thora Hird about a *family-run firm of Yorkshire* undertakers (r). **3.00 Gems.** Rag *trade serial set in London* **3.25 Thames news** headlines **3.30 Sons and Daughters.** Australian family drama serial.

4.00 The Raggy Dolls. Last in the series **4.10 Towser 4.20 He-Man and the Masters of the Universe** (r).

4.45 Splash joins a group of *schoolchildren from Sussex on* holiday in The Gambia.

5.15 Connections. Quiz game

5.45 News with Alastair Stewart.

6.00 The 6 O'Clock Show

7.00 The Price is Right. Leslie Crowther's game show.

8.00 *A Kind of Living.* (Oracle) (see Choice).

8.30 Watching. The first of a new series of the comedy love story starring Emma Wray and Paul Brown.

9.00 The Professionals: Blood Sports. *CI5 investigate the murder* in England of the polo-playing son of a South American president. The problem for Bodie and Doyle is the man's father is as much a suspect as his political opponents. Starring *Gordon Jackson, Martin Shaw* and Lewis Collins (r). (Oracle)

10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Sandy Gall **10.30** *LWT News* and weather.

10.35 The London Programme. Trevor Phillips reports on the boom in cosmetic surgery despite their being no formal training system for cosmetic surgeons, nor any set of *recognized standards or* controls.

11.05 *South of Watford examines* why reading comics, or graphic novels as they are *increasingly* called, has become a trendy pastime.

11.35 Hunter. California crime series.

12.30am Throb. American comedy series. Followed by news headlines.

1.00 Night Network includes Mary Anne Hobbs of *Sounds* magazine *reviewing the music papers;* performances by Everything But the Girl and Pop Will Eat Itself; and an interview with award-winning sports photographer Eamonn McCabe.

4.00 Basketball '88. UCLA at St Louisville.

5.00 ITN Morning News. Ends at **6.00.**

CHANNEL 4

9.30 Schools: how children cope *with being sorry* **9.42** *A panorama* of the Netherlands, by courtesy of the *Royal Netherlands* Air Force and great Dutch painters **9.59** Urban pollution and campaigns to counteract the menace **10.21** Important *experiments in A-level* chemistry **10.43** GCSE pupils *explore man's interaction* with the environment **11.05** A story told through mime and clowning **11.22** The variety of movement in the animal world **11.41** Exciting uses of computers.

12.00 *Business Daily. Financial and* business news service presented by Mark Rogerson.

12.30 Abracadabra. Part six of the 16-programme series on science and technology subjects examines the development of *surgery from its earliest* beginnings in the Stone Age (r).

1.00 *On Course. Open College* trainers' magazine series.

2.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Glyn Mathias. Reporters Nicholas Woolley *and Jackie Ashley review* yesterday's debates in both Houses and look forward to those scheduled for today.

2.30 Equinox: Earthquake Country. A documentary about predicting earthquakes, particularly those expected along California's San Andreas fault (r). (Oracle)

3.30 *Time to Remember* (b/w). Part 31 of the series on Britain from Victorian times to the end of the Second World War focuses on 1940 which saw the start of the Battle of Britain and night raids by Germany on British cities. The *narrator is Michael Redgrave.*

4.00 Mavis on 4. With Mavis Nicholson this afternoon are Dr John Rae, Bea Campbell and Young Conservative Andrew Tinney. They discuss why some people are more politically *motivated than others.*

4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Fast-moving *general knowledge game* presented by William G Stewart.

5.00 Mister Ed (b/w). Vintage American comedy series starring Alan Young as a man with a talking horse.

5.30 The Chart Show part one.

6.00 Neat and Tidy. *Part two of the* comedy adventure serial and Nick and Tena find themselves in the kasbah desperately trying to avoid their pursuers. Starring Skyler Cole and Jill Whitlow.

6.30 The Chart Show part two.

7.00 Channel 4 News with Nicholas Owen and Sue Carpenter. **Weather.**

7.50 Book Choice. Colin Greenland reviews Gregory Benford's *Great Sky River.* (Oracle)

8.00 What the Papers Say with Yvonne Roberts of *The Independent.*

8.15 *Dispatches: Palau. A report on* the underhand skulduggery taking place in a Pacific paradise. Palau is a group of islands in the south west Pacific, a republic administered by the United States under United Nations *trusteeship. Before it relinquishes* its grip on the islands the US wants a *50-year* agreement giving them the right to bring nuclear arms, planes and ships to the island. But Palau created the first nuclear-free constitution in *the world and wants to keep it.* Among those taking part in the programme are *Casper* Weinberger and Admirals Ronald Hays and Eugene J Carroll.

9.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy series. (Oracle)

9.30 The Wine Programme. Jancis Robinson investigates the role of the wine merchant (r). (postponed from January 29) (Oracle)

10.00 Cheers. Comedy set in a Boston bar where, tonight, Sam is persuaded to stand in for an old sportscaster. Starring Ted *Danson. (Oracle)*

10.30 Friday Night Live. The first of a new 10-programme comedy and music series presented by Ben Elton with Harry Enfield. Tonight's guests include the Joan Collins Fan Club; Feargal Sharkey; stand-*up comic Bob Mills and,* making their first television appearance, Voice of the Beehive, a group that includes two former members of Madness.

11.45 After Dark: Beyond the Law? A new series of the open-ended chat show begins with a discussion on Freemasonry.

VARIATIONS

BBC1 **WALES:** 5.35pm-6.00 Wales Today 6.35-7.00 News followed by Neighbours 10.25 Sportfolio 10.55 John Mills – Eighty Years On 11.40 Film: Morning Departure* 1.20am-1.25 News and weather **SCOTLAND:** 10.50am-11.00 Dotaman 6.35-7.00 Reporting Scotland 10.25 Left, Right and Centre 10.55 John Mills – Eighty Years On 11.45 Film: Morning Departure* 1.20am Weather **NORTHERN IRELAND:** 5.35pm Today's Sport 5.40-6.00 Inside Ulster 6.35-7.00 Neighbours 12.50am-12.55 News and weather **ENGLAND:** 6.35pm-7.00 Regional news magazines

BBC2 **WALES:** 8.00pm-8.30 Public Account 9.25-10.25 Rogers and Hammerstein Showtime **NORTHERN IRELAND:** 10.15am-10.35 Ulster in Focus 8.00pm-8.30 Mastermind **ENGLAND: Midlands:** Crimewatch Midlands **North and North-east:** North of Westminster **North-west:** Now! **South:** A Nice Place to Live? **South-west:** Through the Garden Gate **West:** West on Two

ANGLIA As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30-3.00 Film: I Only Arsked* 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters 6.00-7.00 About Anglia 10.35-11.35 Cross Question.

BORDER As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 11.30-3.00 Film: Chad Hanna* 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 10.35 In Loving Memory 11.05 Film: Carry on Dick 12.35am Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30-3.00 Film: Nearest and Dearest 6.00-7.00 News 10.35 Central Weekend 12.00 Other Side of Midnight 12.30am Film: Meteor 2.30 Roxy 3.00 America's Top Ten 3.30 Europe's Top Ten 4.00 Meltdown 4.30-5.00 Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.50pm News 1.00 The Treatment 1.30 The Beiderbecke Affair 2.30 Plants for Free 3.00 Chain Letters 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 6.00 Channel Report 6.30-7.00 Taste of the South 10.35 Facing South 11.05-12.30am Film: The Man Who Could Cheat Death 4.00 Company. Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30-3.00 Film: Port of Escape* 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters 6.00-7.00 North Tonight 10.35 Crossfire 11.05 Film: Crucible of Terror 12.45am Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 Granada Reports 1.30 Wish You Were Here...? 2.00 Scramble! 2.30-3.00 Week in View 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 6.00 Granada Reports 6.30-7.00 Scramble! 10.35 Best and Marsh... The Perfect Match 11.05 Kojak 12.00 Other Side of Midnight 12.30am Film: Meteor 2.30 Roxy 3.00 America's Top 10 3.30 Europe's Top 10 4.00-5.00 Into the Gap Live.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30 Wish You Were Here...? 2.00 Survival 2.30-3.00 Who's The Boss? 6.00-7.00 News 10.35 Weekend Starts Here! 11.35 Lord Mountbatten: The Last Viceroy 1.35am T J Hooker 2.35 Closedown.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six 10.35 First Things First 11.05-11.35 Prizewinners.

TSW As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30-3.00 Film: Genevieve* 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters 6.00 Friday Show 6.50-7.00 Televiews 10.35 Sledgehammer 11.05 Film: The Oscar 1.30am Postscript, Closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.50pm News 1.00 The Treatment 1.30 Beiderbecke Affair 2.30 Write Stuff 3.00 Chain Letters 3.30-4.00 The Young Doctors 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30-7.00 A Taste of the South 10.35 Facing South 11.05-12.30am Film: The Man Who Could Cheat Death 4.00 Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30-3.00 Film: The Fan* 6.00 Northern Life 6.30-7.00 Extra Time 10.35 Nightline 11.35 Hunter 12.35am Three's Company 12.45-6.00 Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 Newstime 1.30-3.00 Film: The Bounty Hunter 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Sportbeat 10.35 Witness 10.40 Sing Out 11.05 Film: Old Man Who Cried Wolf 12.25am Newstime, Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.50pm-1.00 News 1.30-3.00 Film: O'Hara's Wife 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Enterprize 88 10.35 Film: Cruise Missile 12.30am Clive James and the Calendar Girls Go to France 1.30 Film: Torn Between Two Lovers 3.00 Jobfinder 4.00 Closedown.

S4C Starts: 9.30am Schools 12.00 Business Daily 12.30pm Fifteen-to-One 1.00 Open College 2.00 Royalty 3.00 Film: Cisco Kid and the Lady* 4.20 5 Lon Goch 4.30 Sgiliau **4.35 1 Straeon Y Byd** 5.00 **Monsters*** 5.30 **Chart Show** 6.00 **Neat and Tidy** 6.30 **Chart Show** 7.00 **Newyddion Saith** 7.30 **Cyfle Byw** 8.30 **Carreg Ateb** 8.55 **Y Byd Ar Bedwar** 9.40 **A Fine Romance** 10.10 **Film: Acceptable Levels** 12.10am **After Dark** 2.45 **Closedown.**

Richard Griffiths, Francis de la Tour and young Christopher Rothwell: A Kind of Living, on ITV, 8.00pm

All this and Og the baby, too

TELEVISION CHOICE

● Any comedy series which features Richard Griffiths, *Frances de la Tour* and *the* cutest, most intelligent looking baby to be seen on the screen for years, has to have something going for it. **A Kind of Living** (ITV, 8.00pm) features the most unlikely family since Frank Spencer did his best to bust up the matrimonial home in *Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em.* Griffiths plays Trevor Beasley, just moved with his family from Bradford to the Home Counties *to take up the post of head* of English at a new school. This in itself is difficult to swallow since Beasley tends to use phrases like "They were all the rage in them days". *He* is much given to this kind of reminiscing and to fighting off an old friend, Brian, played by Tim Healy, who claims that Trevor has "acquired" most of his best-loved possessions. This is the first series, a six-parter, written by Paul Makin for *Central,* and is primarily, judging by the first episode, a vehicle for the portly Griffiths, *at his most* hilarious when addressing the baby, known as Og, a round-eyed charmer who in real life is Christopher Rothwell; and a frozen chicken which refuses to thaw in time for dinner. (Love, Beasley muses, is much the same: you take it out of the freezer before you go to work). There is a good deal of shouting from the cast and *irritating bursts of laughter* from the studio audience; but there is the prospect of better *things to come.* We *end up* with Beasley, hopeless with things mechanical, attempting to mow the lawn and smoke a cigarette at the same time. It's a predictable gag but worth it for the expression on Beasley's face when the mower blows up and the grass-bin lands at his wife's feet. All good boisterous stuff, plenty of excellent comedy "business" but needing a bit more sparkle in the script.

Ken Gosling

A wide, deep, epic

RADIO CHOICE

● Margaretta D'Arcy, co-*writer of the nine-play cycle* about church and state under the Roman Empire, **Whose is the Kingdom?** (beginning with *The Cross of Light* on Radio 3, 8.00pm), has spoken of the *difficulty* of writing plays about something as abstract as religious doctrine. But between *them,* she and John Arden have, I think, got round the problem with remarkable agility and *intelligence. In a* line, they have given religion not just a human face but a *substantial* body *to go with it.* And nowhere is this physicality better expressed than when *Fausta, wife of the emperor* Constantine, insinuates the rudiments of Christianity into *his system while massaging* the aches and pains out of it. And there are far worse plain *men's guides to the incipient* Christianity that created splits in practically every stratum of *Roman society, than the* opposed marching choruses written for the rank-and-file of the *Roman army advancing on* the walls of Maxentius's Rome: "Mars! Mars, rules the wars! Neptune changed his bloody tune!", and "Amen! Amen! Jesus is for you!". If I have made it sound as if producer Ronald Mason's ambitious series is in the tradition of movie spectaculars like *The Robe* and *Fall of the Roman Empire,* then I have done it a disservice because *Whose is the Kingdom?* has as much depth as width. If I have a reservation, it is about using the exiled philosopher Kybele as an *Under Milk Wood*-type narrator. No complaints, though, about the way Elizabeth Spriggs does it.

Elizabeth Spriggs: in drama on Radio 3, at 8.00pm

Peter Davalle

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All prices and offer examples are correct at time of going to press and subject to availability.

T1902

Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see below)
5.30am Adrian John **7.00** Mike Smith's Breakfast Show **9.30** Nicky Campbell **12.30pm** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **12.45** Gary Davies **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat **5.45** Singled Out **7.00** Jeff Young's Dance Music Show **10.00-12.00** The Friday Rock Show (Tommy Vance) *FM Stereo Radios 1 and 2:* **4.00am** As Radio 2 **10.00pm** As Radio 1 **12.00-4.00pm** *As* Radio 2.

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on FM (see Radio 1)
News on the hour (except **8.00pm**)
4.00am Colin Berry **5.30** Bill Rennells **7.30** Derek Jameson **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** David Jacobs **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Adrian Love **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the *Memory* **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **9.30** The Organist *Entertains (Nigel Ogden)* **10.00** Lorna Dallas — My Serenade **10.30** The Press Gang **11.00** Billy Butler **1.00am** Ellis Hill presents Nightride **3.00-4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

All programme times given in GMT.
6.00am Newsdesk **6.30** Londres Matin **7.00** News **7.09** Twenty-four Hours **7.30** Write On... **7.45** Seven Seas **8.00** News **8.09** Reflections **8.15** First Recordings of British Symphonies **8.30** Music Now **9.00** News **9.09** Review of British Press **9.15** World Today **9.30** Financial News followed by Sports Roundup **9.45** I've Been Together Now for 70 Years **10.00** News **10.01** They Sold A Million **10.15** Seven Seas **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** News **11.09** News About Britain **11.15** Talking From... **11.30** Londres Midi **12.00** Radio Newsreel **12.15** Business Matters **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** News **1.09** Twenty-four Hours **1.30** John Peel **2.00** Outlook **2.45** Nature Notebook **3.00** Radio Newsreel **3.15** Soldier Boy **4.00** News **4.09** *Commentary* **4.15** Science in Action **4.45** World Today **5.00** News **5.09** A Letter from Northern Ireland **5.15** English by Radio **5.45** Londres Soir **6.30** Heute Aktuell **8.00** News **8.09** Twenty-four Hours **8.30** Science in Action **9.00** News **9.01** Network UK **9.15** Business Matters **9.45** Augustus Carp Esq By Himself **10.00** News **10.09** World Today **10.25** A Letter from Northern Ireland **10.30** Financial News **10.40** Reflections **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.09** Commentary **11.15** From the Weeklies **11.30** Multitrack 3 **12.00** News **12.09** News About Britain **12.15** Radio Newsreel **12.30** Personal View **12.45** *Recording of the Week* **1.00** News **1.01** Outlook **1.30** Juke Box Jury **1.45** Nature Notebook **2.00** News **2.09** Commentary **2.15** Network UK **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** News **3.09** News About Britain **3.15** World Today **3.30** Business Matters **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Six Four Eight **4.35** Financial News **4.45** Morgenmagazin **5.45** World Today.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather forecast

7.00 Morning Concert: Krommer (Octet, Op 45: Collegium Musicum, Prague); Grieg (Berceuse, Op 38 No 1, and Scherzo, Op 54 No 5: Emil Gilels, piano)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (contd): Mozart (Flute Concerto in G, K 313: New Irish CO under Previn, with James Galway); Verdi (Te Deum: performed by Philharmonia Chorus and Orchestra under Giulini); Shostakovich (Overture Country Dance and National Holiday, The Gadfly: USSR Cinema SO under Khachaturian)

8.30 News bulletin

8.35 Composers of the Week: Italian Violin School. Vivaldi (Concerto in D minor, Op 3 No 11: Academy of Ancient Music under Christopher Hogwood with John Holloway and Catherine Mackintosh, violins); Albinoni (Sonata in A, Op 2 No 3: I Musici under Scimone); Tartini (Sonata in G minor (Devil's Trill): Eduard Melkus, violin, Lionel Salter, harpsichord, and Walter Schulz, cello); Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in F minor, Op 8 No 4, the Winter: English Concert under Trevor Pinnock with Simon Standage)

9.20 Dezso Ranki Plays Liszt: *The Hungarian pianist plays* Mephisto Waltz Nos 1 and 4 and Polka (G217); Romance in E minor, Piano Piece in F sharp: Ave Maria (G 182)

9.50 Pastoral Ways: Five British folk songs sung by Gerald English (tenor) with West Australian SO under David Measham and Wilfred Joseph (Symphony No 5: Adelaide SO, under Measham)

10.40 *Unaccompanied Bach:* Violin recital by Gyorgy Pauk of Partita No 2 in D minor (BWV 1004)

11.15 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra: Sibelius (Night Ride and Sunrise); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 9 in E flat, K 271); Brahms (Symphony No 2 in D). Includes Interval Reading at **12.05**

1.00 News

1.05 Chamber Music from Manchester: Piano recital by Dmitri Alexeev of works by Schumann (Etudes symphoniques) and Liszt (Variations on a theme of Bach)

2.00 The Symphonies of Edmund Rubbra: Fourth of 10 programmes introduced by Robert Layton. Rubbra (Symphony No 4: BBC PO under Cleobury) (r)

2.35 Mozart: The Endellion Quartet perform Quartet in G (K 387) and Quartet in B flat (K589)

3.35 Flute, Violin and Keyboard: Sebastian Bell, flute, Nona Liddell, violin, and John Constable, piano and harpsichord perform Martinu (Promenades); Leo Brouwer (La region mas transparente); Pawlu Grech (Quantum mutata); and Martinu (Madrigal Sonata)

4.25 Choral Voices: Cantamus under Pamela Cook perform music by Schumann, Schubert, Nigel Osborne and Elizabeth Maconchy

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: recorded music selection, presented by David Hoult

6.30 The World on a String: Geoffrey Smith examines the exciting partnerships the legendary jazz violinist Stephane Grappelli has had in recent years

7.00 News

7.05 Third Ear: Discussion on the performing arts

7.30 Palestrina: New series of archival and current recordings of his masses. Includes recording by Regensburg Cathedral Choir with Hans Schrems of Missa Assumpta est Maria

8.00 Whose is the Kingdom?: New series of plays by John Arden and Margaretta D'Arcy about church and state under the Roman Empire. With Michael N Harbour, Elizabeth Spriggs, Timothy West and Samantha Bond (see Choice)

9.00 Fretwork (part one): Concert by Christopher Wilson (lute) includes John Dowland (Lachrimae antiquae pavan; My Lord Willoughby's Welcome Home; and Lachrimae antiquae novae); William Byrd (In Nomine a 4; and Three Fantasies a 3)

9.40 Words: Talk by playwright James Saunders (r)

9.45 Fretwork (part two): includes John Dowland (Can She Excuse?; and Midnight); and William Byrd's Pavana Bray; and Browning a 5

10.30 The Cool Around the Fire: Roberta Berke and poet Gary Snyder conversein the Sierra Nevada Mountains

11.00 Composers of the Week: Nielsen: Rhapsodic Overture — An Imaginary Journey to the Faroe-Islands (1927); Three Pieces for Piano (1928); Three Motets (1929) and Flute Concerto (1926) (r)

12.00 News. Until **12.05am**

Radio 4

LW (long wave). (s) stereo on FM

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer for the Day (s)

6.30 Today, incl **6.30, 7.30, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.50** Your Letters **8.57** Weather; Travel

9.00 News **9.05** Desert Island Discs: *Michael Parkinson's* guest is William Davis, who picks some favourite recordings (s)

9.45 Flashback: Novelist Joseph Hone revisits scenes of his youth (part one of eight)

10.00 News; International Assignment

10.30 Morning Story: American Dreamer, written and read by Harry Towb

10.45 Daily Service: New Every Morning, page 25 (s)

11.00 News; Analysis: The Islam Factor. Mary Goldring looks at the rise of militant fundamentalism in Nigeria, its clash with Christian opposition, and its wider significance (r)

11.47 Timpson's England: John Timpson introduces some of the amusing, strange and curious facts and stories that he has collected about people, places and events in England. Today: The Wondrous Waterways

12.00 News; You and Yours: John Howard with the second of *four programmes looking* at the changes in the social security system due to come into effect on April Fools Day

12.25 The Food Programme: with Derek Cooper **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World At One

1.40 *The Archers* **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Woman's Hour: incl an interview with the best-selling novelist Catherine Cookson

3.00 News; The Old Wives' Tale: by Arnold Bennett, dramatized in six parts by Peter Mackie (4). With Annie Raitt and Susan Tracy in the cast (s)

4.00 News

4.05 Wilko's Weekly: Reporter Tony Wilkinson explores British communities as seen *through the eyes of their* local newspapers (3) The Isle of Wight *County Press* and the *Weekly Post*

4.30 Kaleidoscope: a second chance to hear last night's edition, which included comment on the RSC production of Carrie; The Old Wives' Tale serialization on Radio 4; and The Age of Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent at the British Museum. Presented by Christopher Cook (r)

5.00 PM **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 *The Six O'Clock News, incl* Financial Report

6.30 *Going Places: Clive Jacobs* and the team with travel and transport news

7.00 News

7.05 The Archers

7.20 Pick of the Week: Margaret Howard presents her selection from last week's television and radio programmes (s)

8.20 Any Questions?: Joining Jonathan Dimbleby in Enderby, Leicestershire, are Norman Fowler, Roy Hattersley, Farrukh Dhondy and Roland Long

9.05 Law in Action: John Eidinow with the weekly magazine discussing issues arising from the courts and Parliament

9.30 Letter from America: by Alistair Cooke

9.45 Kaleidoscope: Bhundu Beats. Phil Korbel reports *from Zimbabwe, where the* Bhundu Boys have returned *home after touring* the UK for two years

10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Confessions of Felix Krull, *Confidence Man* by Thomas Mann (10 of 15). The reader is Hywel Bennett **10.29** Weather

10.30 The World Tonight: presented by David Sells

11.00 Today in Parliament

11.15 *The Financial World Tonight*

11.30 Week Ending: A satirical view of the week's news with Bill Wallis, David Tate, Sally Grace and Royce Mills (s)

12.00 News; Weather

FM as above except: **11.00am-12.00** For Schools **11.00** Earth Search **11.20** Playtime (s) **11.35** Music Workshop (s) **1.55-3.00pm** For Schools **1.55** Listening Corner (s) **2.05** Let's Join In (s) **2.25** The Song Tree (s) **2.40** Scottish Traditional Dancing (s) **5.50-5.55** PM (continued) **12.30-1.10am** *Schools Night-Time. Deutsch fur die Oberstufe.*

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; **Radio 2:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; **Radio 3:** 1215kHz/247m: VHF-90-92.5; **Radio 4:** 200kHz/1500m: VHF-92-95; **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m: VHF 97.3; **Capital:** 1548kHz/194m: VHF95.8; **BBC Radio London:** 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; **World Service:** MF 648kHz/463m.

Talks on Soviet ethnic unrest

From Christopher Walker
Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov yesterday called for a special plenary session of the Communist Party's ruling Central Committee to discuss ways of tackling the rising tide of nationalism in the Soviet Union which has prompted ethnic unrest from Central Asia to the Baltic republics.

Western diplomatic observers claim that the spread of national feeling among non-Russians — which has included fierce riots in Kazakhstan and an unprecedented demonstration by displaced Crimean Tartars in Red Square — is the greatest single threat to the stability of the Communist state.

The Western experts point out that national feelings among Soviet minorities have been fanned in recent years by the growth of Islam in the southern republics, where youths have been reported as flatly refusing to serve in the Soviet Army fighting Muslim rebels in Afghanistan.

The Soviet leader told a biennial session of the policy-making body in Moscow summoned mainly to deal with education reform: "At the present stage, we must deal with nationalities policy very substantially. This is the most fundamental and vital question of our society."

Warning to Nato 10
Elite lines up.................10

Many conservatives inside the Kremlin hierarchy have privately blamed the recent liberalization in Soviet society for the rapid growth of national sentiment. But publicly, much of it — particularly in the three Baltic republics of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia — has been blamed by the Soviet propaganda machine on incitement from the West.

In an important speech on domestic and international policy, Mr Gorbachov told members of the 307-strong committee that there had been recent manifestations of "nationalism and chauvinism". He added that the way to cope was by pursuing a "Leninist national policy which includes profound respect for the dignity, honour, culture, language and history of each nation".

Yesterday's unexpected call for a nationalities' plenum was seen in Western embassies as the clearest admission yet by the Kremlin leadership of the problem now posed by the so-called "minorities" in the Soviet Union, which in the case of the Central Asian republics are quickly out-breeding Russians, whose average family includes only one child.

Two two-day committee session behind closed doors ended last night with the final humiliation of Mr Gorbachov's former close political ally, Mr Boris Yeltsin, aged 56, who was formally removed from membership of the Politburo — an inevitable move after his unceremonious sacking in November as head of the Moscow Communist Party.

Whitehall's mandarins face the future

Reform club: Sir Robin Butler (left), head of the Civil Service, Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Civil Service, and Mr Peter Kemp, who will take charge of the changes, at the Cabinet Office briefing to explain the upheavals to the press yesterday. (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance)

Shake-up in Civil Service

Continued from page 1

The Minister's reply was that everything depended on the "framework" contract that Mr George Younger, the Defence Secretary, drew up.

The first candidates for agency status together contain about one in eight of all civil servants. More would be considered later, Mr Luce said. The candidates announced yesterday are:

- HMSO, which already operates as a "trading fund" with considerable day-to-day independence.
- Jobcentres and unemployment benefit administration, which employ some 40,000 civil servants responsible for a £6 billion annual budget.
- Royal Parks and Palaces in London (excluding Buckingham Palace and the Royal Family's own residences).
- Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre and the inspectorate which operates heavy goods vehicle testing stations and supervises MoT testing.
- Ministry of Defence research establishments such as the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment.
- Meteorological Office.
- Companies Registration Office in Cardiff, London and Edinburgh.
- Passport department.
- Resettlement units for down-and-outs operated by the Department of Health and Social Security.
- Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre.

Improving Management in Government: The Next Steps. Report to the Prime Minister. Stationery Office £3.90.

Making royal palaces and parks pay

Continued from page 1

Regent's Park, Primrose Hill, Richmond Park, Brompton Cemetery, Greenwich Park and Bushy Park.

These cost £13 million a year and the department acknowledges that they will never pay for themselves. However, the agency will again be expected "to get the maximum revenue they can" from restaurants, kiosks, and other park facilities.

Another candidate for agency management is the new Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in Westminster, currently managed by the Property Services Agency for the department.

The palaces employ about 300 people, and the parks around 600. The staff of the agencies will be predominantly civil servants, but will no longer be part of the department. There will be nothing to stop the employment of outsiders.

Under new management: The Tower of London (left), Hampton Court Palace and Greenwich Park, where visitors will be charged "a marketable price".

Commons sketch

The ties have it at Question Time

Clothes can speak louder than words. This is particularly true where Mr Nicholas Soames is concerned. Though he is, by nature, loud, his clothes are often, by nature, louder. For Prime Minister's Question Time, he was wearing a shiny tie upon which the image of Superman had been superimposed. Though Mr Ian Gow (Cons, Eastbourne) had, earlier in the day, requested, in no uncertain terms, that he remove the offending item, Mr Soames had shown the steely determination of his superhero in sticking to his guns.

The defiantly Scottish Mr Dennis Canavan (Lab, Falkirk West) began to complain that young Nazis in uniform had been jostled and kicked by policemen. Skilled observers, baffled by this apparent change in Mr Canavan's sympathies, discovered, after strenuous consultation, that he had actually been speaking up for young nurses in uniform.

Mr Eric Heffer rose to complain about similar police behaviour towards "priests, nuns, laity and monks". Mr Heffer was wearing a bright red tie of the type worn by many Labour members as if as a clue. But Mr Heffer somehow offsets this clue by tending towards blue and white striped shirts, the traditional uniform of the Conservative benches. Mr Dennis Skinner, who was later to complain of British banks being "bailed out by the British taxpayer" is another socialist blue-and-white striper, and he is also the only member in the House who is always to be seen wearing a country tweed jacket. In another life, he might easily pass muster at a Hunt Ball, though his constant cries of "Maggie, Maggie, Maggie — Out, Out, Out!" might be a bit of a giveaway.

After the Prime Minister had announced changes in the administration of the Civil Service, Mr Michael Foot rose to complain. Since Christmas, Mr Foot has been sporting a bright orange tie, which, situated beneath his white-thatch hair, makes him look much like a mobile straw-hut of the type seen in exotic beach-bars in Bermuda. "One of the reasons for the low morale in the Civil Service is that she has appointed confirmed Thatcherites to the best jobs" he grunted, his tie swinging in time with his wrath.

Across the way, Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, whom unkind intimates have often accused of designing his own clothes, was clad in a shirt that seemed to have been soaked in sour Burgundy. Across his midriff, watch-chains clinked and jangled. In a previous incarnation, Mr Fairbairn may well have been the keeper of a dungeon, or, at very least, the distinguished inhabitant of one. Mr Fairbairn, it emerged, was offended by the cost of one million Labour National Health brochures, which, he claimed, infringed the law. "It would be better to spend the money more charitably" he gulped, before plunging back into his seat.

Mr Tam Dalyell, dressed casually in a light blue V-neck jersey, has been quiet for some time now, perhaps brooding on the sinister facts that have still not been made public concerning the Wars of the Roses. He can usually rely on his fellow conspiracy theorist, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, to point the necessary fingers, but Mr Campbell-Savours is at present waging a war against Mr Selwyn Gummer for his "vindictive, vicious" attacks on the Church. Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman, who dresses with her sensible black handbag in mind, is having none of it. "At least he's giving a lead, which is more than you are" she screeched in a rare heckle.

Elsewhere in the House, clothes are divided on a party basis. The more severe Labour members choose to wear dull ties upon which are inscribed little insignia proclaiming their allegiance to causes too serious for bright colours. The even more severe — Jeremy Corbyn, Dave Nellist — dress mainly in beards, supplemented with jackets with zips and open-necked shirts. These sartorial statements draw smoke from the ears of the older Conservative members in their pin-striped suits and brush moustaches. As for the younger Conservatives, they all look, and dress, like Mr Norman Fowler.

Craig Brown

New road for car licensing

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre at Swansea and the Vehicle Inspectorate responsible for MoT tests are likely to have their status changed to that of an "executive agency" the Government announced yesterday when it identified 12 candidates for the campaign to improve efficiency in the Civil Service.

The aim of the changes is to remove day-to-day control from Whitehall by making the agencies autonomous.

Greater contact with the private sector is an implicit part of the move though whether that would mean DVLC selling data about vehicles and owners or including advertising in the licence-reminder circulars is far from clear.

Last night officials were unable to identify how the switch from a directorate to an executive agency would significantly improve efficiency though denied it was the first step towards privatization.

Mr Graham Wattley DVLC's director said costs had been cut by 10 per cent over the last three years and documents for the country's 30 million driving-licence holders and 22 million registered vehicles were being processed 30 per cent more quickly.

Today's proposals would, he believed, give more scope for even better management.

Civil Service unions at the 16 storey DVLC at Swansea are to hold mass meetings in the centre's car park today for the 4,200 workers. Last night the union leaders said they feared staff were a "prime target" for changes which might later be imposed on the rest of the Civil Service.

Mr Maurice Wilson, chairman of the DVLC joint trade union committee, said the initial reaction to Mrs Thatcher's statement was one of "concern and worry".

Two years ago the Vehicle Inspectorate achieved gains in efficiency when it was divided into 53 districts and management streamlined.

Overwhelming vote to call off strike at Ford

Continued from page 1

Under the agreement, negotiations to introduce the new methods will be discussed at local plant level with reference to the national joint negotiating committee if they cannot be resolved.

At the company's Halewood plant on Merseyside, slightly more than two thirds of those who voted decided to accept the improved deal. It represented a major setback for militant shop stewards, who had urged them to vote against the agreement.

Mr Richie Rowlands, chairman of the Halewood shop stewards, said: "We are not unhappy — it just shows how democratic we are in giving our members all the facts and letting them make up their own minds. We don't see it as a vote of no confidence in us."

At Dagenham, where militant shop stewards had been urging the men to hold out for a one-year, 10 per cent "no strings" settlement, workers at the engine plant voted by 78 per cent for acceptance compared with a 59 per cent rejection of the first offer.

Last night, the company gave the following breakdown of voting: Dagenham assembly, rejection by 1,413 votes to 1,078; Dagenham engine, 78 per cent in favour; Dagenham KD works, 71 per cent of the 200 workers in favour; Halewood transmission 64 per cent in favour; Belfast, 79 per cent in favour; Bridgend, 83 per cent in favour; Enfield, 66 per cent in favour; Leamington Spa, 91 per cent in favour; Southampton, 82 per cent in favour; Swansea, 87 per cent in favour; Basildon tractor plant, 61 per cent in favour; Treforest, 95 per cent in favour; Woolwich, 95 per cent in favour.

As Ford prepared to return to normal production, workers at Vauxhall's plant at Ellesmere Port voted to take strike action in protest against pension scheme changes to be introduced in April.

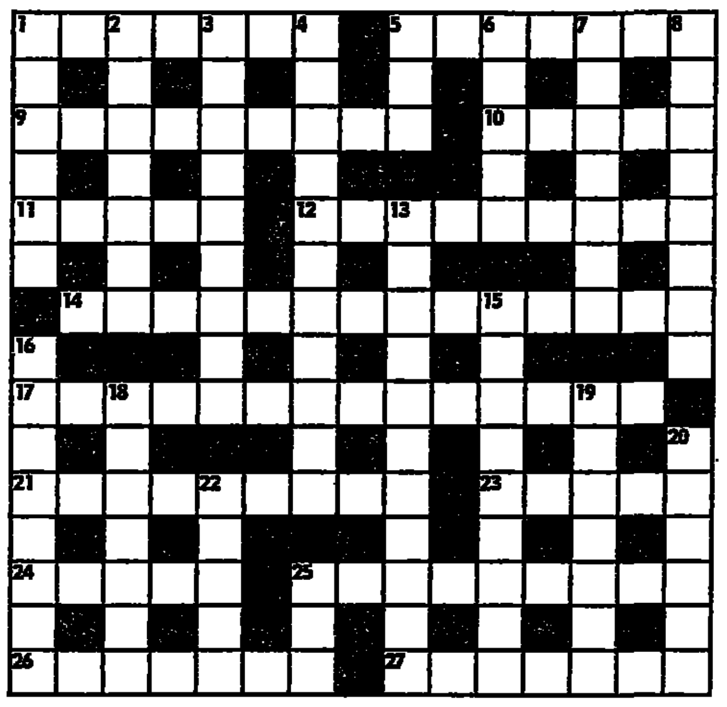
The company has said it intends to use 75 per cent of a £160 million pension surplus to improve existing arrangements, with the remainder being used to invest in the business to enhance job security and help repay debts incurred by big losses in recent years.

A spokesman for the Transport and General Workers' union said: "The money has come from our contributions and we want all of it to be used to improve the scheme".

He said that if that concession was not made on Monday at a meeting of the pension board there would be an all-out strike.

- **Damaging image:** Sir David Nickson, president of the CBI, said last night that over-reaction to industrial strikes during the past couple of weeks with the suggestion of a spring of discontent and the return of the "British disease" had spread across the world.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,596



ACROSS

1 Agency to install desk-telephone (7).
5 Pick up service in part (7).
9 Deep extra-covers for some deliveries? (4-5).
10 Capital I found in upholstered seat (5).
11 Stick together in clinch (5).
12 There can be some itching as these terms end (9).
14 The moral is — gout can be treated, he asserts (14).
17 Put out testimonial that can be double-checked (5-9).
21 Popper with two engaging parts (5-4).
23 Old hamlet of South Orpington (5).
24 Lady-love with bad back (5).
25 Flowing from a NE Baltic resort (9).
26 Senior lady longing to be finished outside (7).
27 Shelter here for a tanner (3-4).

DOWN

1 Spring-term merriment does not include it (6).
2 Old capital that launched the five big banks? (7).
3 Single-handed nipper over the border? (9).
4 Sheer open plain (11).
5 The Colonel's salad-plant (3).
6 Ellis ordered this cotton thread (5).
7 Openers of fairs near Diyarbakir said to have title (7).
8 In which pâté-tray is ordered? (3-5).
13 Advancing sum to open business (11).
15 Spend too long at the bar on coach, perhaps (9).
16 Navicular foot-bone to be treated in dock? (8).
18 Trouble with Bunter's form (7).
19 Staff of bishop's office more cheerful after church opening (7).
20 Rising maintenance costs (6).
22 This writer made a pot (5).
25 Something for potting in London gardens, we hear (3).

Concise crossword, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

PELAGIC
a. Marine
b. Pertaining to a heresy
c. Cantankerous

FAIRBANKS
a. A riverine environment
b. A Bridge hand
c. A style of trousers

GUSSY UP
a. To settle a bet
b. To dress up
c. A Naval dinner call

APODOSIS
a. Part of a conditional
b. Unconditional surrender
c. A legal exception

Answers on page 20, column 1

The solution to yesterday's eliminator puzzle 17,595 will appear next Thursday

WEATHER

It will be generally cloudy over much of the country, especially over eastern regions at first where a little light rain may fall in the morning. Elsewhere some bright or sunny periods are likely, especially in areas sheltered from the mainly moderate north-westerly winds. Maximum temperatures 8-10C (46-50F). Outlook: Showers over Scotland and Northern Ireland. Dry and mild elsewhere with some sunshine.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	f	Majorca	15	59	s
Akrotiri	15	59	r	Malaga	16	61	f
Algiers	15	59	r	Malta	16	61	s
Athens	14	57	s	Melb'rne	23	73	s
Barbads*	29	84	s	Mexico C*	23	73	s
Bermuda*	21	70	s	Miami*	24	75	s
Biarritz	8	46	s	Moscow	-7	19	sn
B Aires*	29	84	s	Naples	13	55	f
Cairo	15	59	c	N Delhi	20	68	s
Cape Tn	21	70	c	Nice	14	57	f
C'blanca	16	61	s	Peking	5	41	s
Chicago*	-1	30	sn	Perth	32	90	s
Ch'church	18	64	f	Rhodes	13	55	f
Corfu	13	55	s	Rio de J	29	84	f
Faro	15	59	s	Riyadh	20	68	s
Florence	14	57	s	Rome	15	59	f
Funchal	16	61	c	S Paulo*	26	79	c
Geneva	6	43	s	Seoul	-2	28	s
Gibraltar	14	57	c	Sing'por	28	82	t
Helsinki	-6	21	sn	Strasb'rg	7	45	c
Hong K	12	54	c	Tangier	17	63	f
Innsbrck	7	45	f	Tenerife	19	66	f
Istanbul	7	45	s	Tokyo	6	43	s
Jeddah	25	77	s	Toronto*	1	34	c
Jo'burg*	22	72	c	Tunis	19	66	f
Karachi	27	81	f	Valencia	15	59	s
L Palmas	19	66	s	Vanc'ver*	7	45	r
Le Tquet	8	46	c	Venice	9	48	s
Lisbon	12	54	s	Vienna	5	41	f
Locarno	9	48	s	Wash'ton*	10	50	s
L Angels*	17	63	s	Wel'nton	14	57	c
Luxembg	3	37	c	Zurich	5	41	s

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	2.3	-	10	50	bright
Cromer	1.0	-	9	48	cloudy
Clacton	2.7	-	10	50	cloudy
Folkestone	1.8	-	10	50	cloudy
Eastbourne	4.6	-	9	48	bright
Brighton	3.9	-	9	48	sunny
Littlehmptn	2.8	-	10	50	sunny
Southsea	2.1	-	10	50	cloudy
Shanklin	2.2	-	9	48	cloudy
Bournemth	2.1	-	11	52	bright
Weymouth	2.2	-	11	52	cloudy
Exmouth	0.6	-	10	50	cloudy
Torquay	0.7	-	10	50	cloudy
Penzance	0.5	-	9	48	cloudy
Scilly Isles	0.5	-	10	50	cloudy
Newquay	0.3	-	10	50	cloudy
Minehead	2.8	-	11	52	bright
Morecambe	-	-	8	46	dull
Douglas	*	.01	9	48	dull
Carlisle	-	-	9	48	dull
Nottingham	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Anglesey	-	-	9	48	dull
Tenby	0.5	-	10	50	cloudy
Aberdeen	4.0	.02	9	48	shower
Aviemore	1.2	.05	7	45	shower
Eskdalemuir	-	.10	8	46	shower
Kinloss	1.5	.01	9	48	shower
Lerwick	3.2	.52	6	43	hail
Prestwick	0.5	.07	9	48	rain
Tiree	1.8	.04	9	48	cloudy
Wick	0.9	.04	7	45	hail

* Denotes figures not available

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.47	7.4	3.17	7.7
Aberdeen	2.22	4.5	2.23	4.7
Avonmouth	8.28	14.3	8.49	14.1
Belfast	—	—	12.04	3.9
Cardiff	8.11	13.1	8.34	12.9
Devonport	7.11	6.1	7.38	5.8
Dover	—	—	12.11	6.8
Falmouth	6.41	5.9	7.08	5.6
Glasgow	1.53	4.7	2.05	5.3
Harwich	12.41	3.9	1.10	4.1
Holyhead	11.19	6.2	11.49	5.7
Hull	7.28	7.8	7.28	8.3
Ilfracombe	7.10	10.0	7.33	9.7
Leith	3.36	5.8	3.47	6.0
Liverpool	12.08	9.8	12.25	10.2
Lowestoft	10.47	2.4	10.36	2.7
Margate	12.52	4.9	1.34	4.9
Milford Haven	7.24	7.7	7.47	7.4
Newquay	6.14	7.7	6.37	7.4
Oban	6.56	4.5	7.15	4.1
Penzance	6.11	8.3	6.40	5.9
Portland	8.09	2.6	8.42	2.3
Portsmouth	12.21	4.9	12.32	4.8
Shoreham	12.10	6.8	12.24	6.6
Southampton	11.54	4.7	—	—
Swansea	7.33	10.2	7.52	10.0
Tees	4.48	5.6	4.54	5.9
W'ton-on-Nze	12.29	4.2	1.02	4.4

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft. Times are GMT

THE POUND

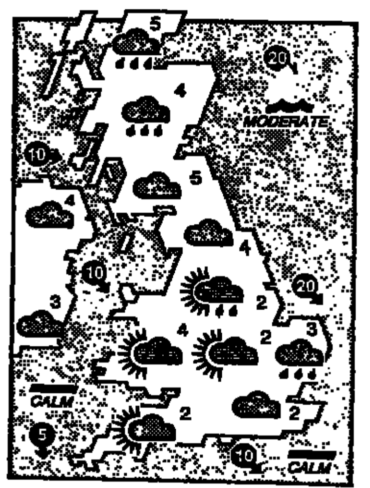
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.535	2.395
Austria Sch	21.70	20.60
Belgium Fr	64.90	61.70
Canada $	2.315	2.195
Denmark Kr	11.84	11.24
Finland Mkk	7.55	7.15
France Fr	10.43	9.93
Germany Dm	3.095	2.935
Greece Dr	253	233
Hong Kong $	14.05	13.35
Ireland Pt	1.167	1.107
Italy Lira	2275	2165
Japan Yen	237.50	225.50
Netherlands Gld	3.47	3.30
Norway Kr	11.71	11.11
Portugal Esc	249	236
South Africa Rd	4.05	3.56
Spain Pta	207.75	196.75
Sweden Kr	11.02	10.47
Switzerland Fr	2.535	2.415
USA $	1.83	1.74
Yugoslavia Dnr	2870	2170

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

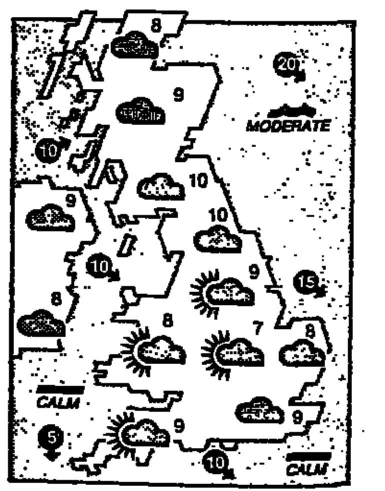
Retail Price Index: 103.3 (January)

London: The *FT* index closed down 7.0 at 1389.4.

AM



PM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 70 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 4 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1026.7 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 5.52 pm to 6.35 am
Bristol 6.01 pm to 6.46 am
Edinburgh 5.54 pm to 6.58 am
Manchester 5.56 pm to 6.49 am
Penzance 6.16 pm to 6.55 am

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 9C (48F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 4C (39F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, nil.

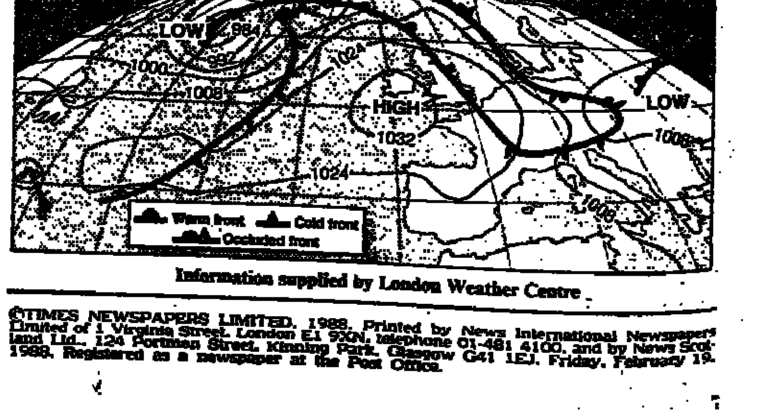
Sun rises: 7.06 am
Sun sets: 5.22 pm
Moon rises 7.57 am
Moon sets 8.11 pm
First Quarter February 24

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	8	46	c	Guernsey	7	45	c
B'rngham	9	48	c	Inverness	8	46	c
Blackpool	7	45	c	Jersey	7	45	c
Bristol	9	48	f	London	11	52	f
Cardiff	9	48	c	M'nchster	8	46	c
Edinburgh	9	48	c	Newcastle	9	48	f
Glasgow	9	48	r	R'aldsway	8	46	c

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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هكذا من الأصل

PART 2
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 19 1988
THE TIMES
BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-28
SPORT 32-36

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1389.4 (–7.0)

FT-SE 100
1736.1 (–12.0)

Bargains
23488 (21871)

USM (Datastream)
145.26 (–0.44)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7445 (–0.0070)

W German mark
2.9814 (–0.0049)

Trade-weighted
74.3 (same)

Charterhall in £10m cash call

Shareholders in Charterhall, the former oil exploration company now used as an investment vehicle by Mr Russell Goward, the Australian entrepreneur, are being asked for £10 million to help pay off bank debts established during last November's £39 million acquisition of Allebone, the shoe shop chain.

The news accompanied half-year profits of £3.98 million, compared with just £455,000 the year before, and a hint from Mr Goward that dividend payments — legally still impossible because of the balance sheet position — may be resumed next year.

KENNETH FLEET

City analysts often talk of the efficiency of industry, but how efficient is the City itself? Kenneth Fleet probes the question in *The Times* tomorrow.

Saunders bill

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chairman and chief executive, has asked the High Court to check whether his former solicitor's bill is reasonable. Mr Saunders and the solicitor concerned, Payne Hicks Beach, have fallen out over the amount of the bill, which is understood to exceed £500,000.

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	2000.83 (–0.16)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Average	24675.36 (+245.41)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	Closed
Amsterdam: Gen	230.3 (–0.2)
Sydney: AO	1243.9 (+10.2)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1354.3 (+0.1)
Brussels:	
General	4551.3 (+17.7)
Paris: CAC	296.3 (+7.7)
Zurich: SKA Gen	448.9 (–1.7)
London:	
FT.—A All-Share	891.85 (–5.42)
FT.— "500"	981.37 (–5.78)
FT. Gold Mines	270.9 (+2.0)
FT. Fixed interest	95.13 (–0.28)
FT. Govt Secs	88.78 (+0.02)
Recent issues	**Page 26**
Closing prices	**Page 27**

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Body Shop	925p (+10p)
Henderson	353½p (+13p)
Tilbury Group	320p (+23p)
Appleyard	320p (+20p)
Fitzwilton	110½p (+13p)
Wholesale Fitting	467p (+37p)
Cap & Counties	367½p (+15p)
Merivale Moore	315p (+15p)
Graig Shipping	705p (+10p)
Tomkinsons	465p (+25p)
NMC Group	152p (+10p)
Transcontinental	210p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Church	*440p (–10p)*
Elys Wimbledon	595p (–30p)
UK Land	425p (–13p)
Norcros	387½p (–12p)
Pearson	683½p (–15p)
Prudential	817½p (–12p)
Authority Inv	297½p (–10p)
Midland	397½p (–10p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 9%
3-month interbank 9 9/16-9¼%
3-month eligible bills: 8 31/32-8 29/32%
buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8½%
Federal Funds 6 9/16%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.73-5.71%*
30-year bonds 104 3/16-104¼*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7445	£: $1.7470*
£: DM2.9814	$: DM1.7075*
£: SwFr2.4528	$: SwFr1.4045*
£: FFr10.0780	$: FFr5.7725*
£: Yen226.87	$: Yen129.95*
£: Index:74.3	$: Index:95.3
ECU £0.692662	SDR £0.772766

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $448.25 pm-$447.25
close $444.00-444.50 (£253.50-254.00)
New York:
Comex $444.40-444.90*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar) pm $15.70bbl ($16.00)
* Denotes latest trading price

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☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Domestic profit wiped out by £1bn Third World provision

Midland loss totals £505m

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

The bank reporting season began spectacularly yesterday when Midland Bank announced a pretax loss of £505 million — the first loss ever made by a British clearer and worse than many City analysts had predicted.

The loss resulted from a £1.016 billion special provision which Midland made during the year, in common with other international banks, against £4.1 billion of bad debts to Third World countries. Without the provision, the bank would have been able to report a £77 million increase in profits to £511 million.

Large bad debt provisions have depressed the profits of the other three main clearing banks which are due to report their results next week. Lloyds Bank, however, is the only other bank expected to show a loss. Midland is leaving its dividend for the year unchanged at 20.1p.

Sir Kit McMahon, Midland's chairman and chief executive, said that the bank's provisions were now equivalent to 29 per cent of its problem-country loans. That was considerably higher than those of many leading US banks *which did not include* undrawn commitments and trade credit lines when calculating their exposure.

He said: "We now feel we are satisfactorily provisioned and we do not see the need for another big jump in provisions next year." This was because the debt problem in Latin America was not likely to get substantially worse this year, and the Bank of England *was encouraging banks to* spread provisioning over several years, he added. He did not expect the bank to take part in this month's sale of bonds by Mexico which is part of the country's latest debt rescheduling package.

Midland's results were almost entirely supported by domestic banking profits which rose by 35 per cent from £294 million to £396 million as business volume and interest margins rose.

But in other areas the bank reported further substantial losses. *International banking* profits plunged from £54 million to £13 million, mainly because of costs related to Third World debt.

Tempus 24

Profits at Midland Montagu, the investment banking arm, fell by half from £83 million to £41 million, largely because of the controversial decision to withdraw from equity market-making and broking. Losses on the operation before it was closed down amounted to £35 million, with a further £11 million expected in closing-down costs. Market-making at Greenwell Montagu ended last March, but the broking operation continued until it was wound up at the end of last month.

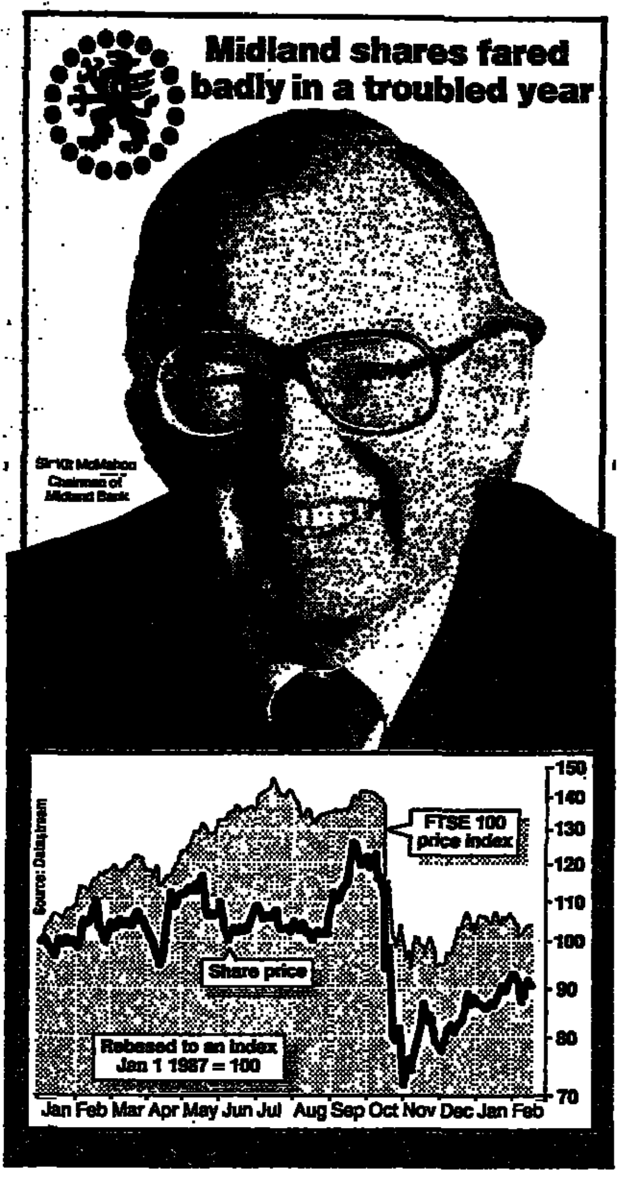
About half the profits for Midland Montagu came from treasury operations, with the rest from investment banking, *gilts and other operations.*

Despite the losses, Sir Kit said the year had been one of great achievement in rebuilding the bank's capital ratios and establishing a new three-year corporate strategy. Midland sold the Clydesdale and Northern banks, raised £700 million in a rights issue and received extra capital from its link with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Coporation. Its equity-to-asset ratio, therefore, rose from 4 per cent to 5.5 per cent — one of the highest in the sector.

He said the group did not need more capital, even under the new capital adequacy ratios being introduced by central banks around the world.

He said the bank had failed to reduce costs sufficiently over the last year. Over the last four years, Midland had cut down the number of its branches to save on costs so that it now had fewer offices than Lloyds Bank. Its cost ratio was still far too high, however, and a further programme of improving the *efficiency of branches* would help to push costs down in two to three years' time.

Since Hongkong Bank took a 14.9 per cent stake in Midland last year, the cooperation agreement between the two banks was moving forward rapidly.



Midland shares fared badly in a troubled year

Sir Kit McMahon
Chairman of Midland Bank

Asset sales on the way as BP turns in £1.4bn

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

BP yesterday announced annual after-tax profits of £1.4 billion for 1987, on a historic cost basis. It hopes to have final government approval for its takeover of Britoil, the Glasgow-based independent oil company, within a week.

Sir Peter Walters, the BP *chairman, said the decision* now rests with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, and he hoped an announcement would be made shortly. He said: "There is a saying that a week is a long time in politics, and we hope the decision will be made within that time."

Sir Peter also announced that in the coming year BP will embark on a programme of disposing of assets that do not fit in with existing businesses, to raise between £600 million and £1 billion. That would bring down its debt-equity ratio to BP's self-imposed "comfort level" of 30 per cent, compared with the 40 per cent mark it is now at, because of purchases.

At noon yesterday BP was sitting on 79.8 per cent of the issued Britoil shares, 29.8 per cent of which it had bought on the open market after it launched its dawn raid in December, and 50 per cent which it has acquired since launching its full takeover bid. The full offer has now been extended until 3pm next Wednesday.

Britoil's advice to the outstanding shareholders is to do nothing until the Government makes an announcement on its golden share in the company. Talks on the role of the golden share are still going on between the Treasury, BP and Britoil.

Sir Peter said BP had always been prepared to give assurances that it would retain and expand the Glasgow operations of Britoil. He said: "It has always been our intention to add value to Glasgow, not to take value away from Glasgow."

He said BP's first task on taking over Britoil would be to "prioritize" the North Sea assets that Britoil has, and draw up plans for bringing developments forward at a faster pace than BP has always considered Britoil capable of.

However, BP itself is now 20 per cent owned by the government of Kuwait, which stepped in and bought up large tranches of the 31.5 per cent shareholding sold by the Government last year. The Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) has added another 7 million BP shares to its portfolio over the past two days, taking its stake to 20 per cent.

Sir Peter said BP could live with the Kuwait holding, as it had with the former British Government holding, after assurances from Sheikh Ali Khalifa, the Kuwaiti oil minister, who is also deputy *finance minister* and deputy chairman of the Kuwait Investment Agency which owns the KIO. He said it was a long-term investment and Kuwait had no intention of seeking any managerial input or any board representation.

Tempus .... page 24

Sir Peter said: "The KIO holding clouds some perceptions of BP, but is is up to us to show that BP is still as independent a British company as it ever was. We will have to show the world it is not affecting our independence."

The BP final dividend announced for 1987 was set at 8p, making a total of 12.5p compared with the 1986 total of 11.67p. Shareholders on the register on March 4 — and that includes those Britoil shareholders who have accepted BP's cash-plus-share alternative offer — will have the option of taking their dividend in cash or shares. The value of the shares will be *calculated from the price* quoted during the five days from next Monday.

Hepworth's £78m bid for Henderson

By Cliff Feltham

Hepworth Ceramic Holdings, the building materials group, caught the stock market by surprise yesterday when it launched a £78 million takeover bid for Henderson Group, the manufacturer of garage doors and security equipment, which had agreed a merger with Newman Tonks Group. The 345p-a-share cash offer is 11p more than the mixture of cash and shares proposed by Newman Tonks. Henderson shares jumped 14p to 354p.

Last night Mr Timothy Frankland, the chairman of Newman Tonks, said: "We are sticking by our earlier offer. They are offering cash and buying a company for diversification. It is a straight choice for institutions to roll over into a merged company with industrial logic or take cash and get out. We believe institutions would prefer to come in with us. We are confident the Henderson board will continue to support our bid."

Hepworth Ceramic had bought a crucial 23 per cent holding in Henderson from Evered Holdings, the industrial conglomerate run by the Abdullah brothers.

Mr Sinclair Thomson, the chief executive of Hepworth Ceramic, said he had been looking closely at Henderson for more than a year but lost interest when Evered acquired its stake.

"We always felt that if Evered made a bid it would be with shares. But the stock market crash hit them badly. This awakened our interest in buying the stake."

Hepworth Ceramic is hoping Henderson will still switch its allegiance. A meeting between the two sides yesterday was described as "courteous".

When Newman Tonks launched its bid, then worth £77 million, earlier this month a number of shareholders, including the Throgmorton Trust, owning about 18 per cent of Henderson, agreed to back the bid. The sale of its holding gives Evered a profit of about £500,000.

Tempus, page 24

Stock Exchange report on NatWest dismissal

By Our City Staff

A full report on the events surrounding the dismissal of Mr Martin Price, the head of option sales at County NatWest Securities last November, is being studied by the Stock Exchange surveillance department.

Mr Price, and two other executives, were sacked last November after the department reported losses of several millions arising from the stock market crash last October.

But NatWest denies reports that it is suing Mr Andrew McLennan, its former equity salesman who was dismissed in October after running up losses of £3 million in the options market.

"We are not taking any legal action at this time," a bank spokesman said last night.

The spokesman also denied knowledge of any industrial tribunal application by Mr Price, who has been reported as wanting to seek redress

Worry over pay growth as jobless fall continues

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Unemployment fell by 50,800 to 2.56 million last month, its 18th successive monthly fall, providing evidence of the continued buoyancy of the economy.

But there was a worrying sign for ministers as the growth of earnings moved up again. Average earnings rose by 8.5 per cent in the 12 *months to December, well out* of line with the 3.7 per cent rise in retail prices over the same period.

The rate of growth of earnings, which moved up in stages from 7.75 per cent in September to 8.5 per cent in December is causing great concern to ministers.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, said: "The cost of excessive pay settlements can only be damaging to future prospects for jobs. They discourage employers from taking on more staff and reduce opportunities for expanding output."

Although reaction in the stock market was muted with the FT-SE 100 index down by only 12.0 points at 1,736.1, the earnings figures, together with Bank of England data showing a record £5.5 billion surge in bank lending last month, provoked worries about inflation.

Department of Employment officials said that the *rate of growth of earnings* was the highest since November 1982 but that some of the increase was due to overtime and bonus payments.

The unadjusted unemployment total rose, as is normal in January, increasing by 26,344 to 2,722,154 or 9.8 per cent of the workforce.

UK UNEMPLOYMENT

	Total (m)	Change (000)
Feb	3.067	-45.7
Mar	3.037	-29.2
Apr	3.021	-15.9
May	2.951	-70.5
Jun	2.922	-28.7
July	2.873	-49.1
Aug	2.826	-47.6
Sep	2.772	-53.3
Oct	2.714	-58.6
Nov	2.651	-62.8
Dec	2.614	-36.9
Jan	2.563	-50.8

Record surge in bank lending

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

Bank lending last month rose by a record £5.5 billion seasonally adjusted. But despite some anxiety before the figures, markets were not unduly perturbed because of the high level of tax payments made by companies, which helped to offset the monetary effects of high lending.

The Bank of England said the surge in lending, which compared with £4.9 billion in the previous month, had been affected by two special factors. Companies had borrowed on a large scale to pay their corporation tax bills, while the interest rates structure during January provided *opportunities for companies borrowing* from the banks to re-lend at a profit in money markets.

Because of the big public sector repayment, the rise in bank lending produced only a small rise in the broadly defined money supply, M3, of 0.5 per cent after seasonal adjustment. This compares with 1.4 per cent the previous month. The 12-month rise slowed down slightly from 22.8 per cent to 22.3 per cent.

The narrowly defined M0, on which the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, has placed emphasis, was also well behaved. Against the market's expectation, it fell 0.3%, leaving the year-on-year rate up from 4.2 per cent to 4.8 per cent.

Ms Joanne Curley, of Morgan Grenfell, said: "There is certainly no reason here for a rise in base rates."

Among the counterparts to M3, not seasonally adjusted, the public sector borrowing requirement fell by £6.3 billion, debt sales to the private sector were down £400 million, while external flows to the public sector rose £100 million. Bank lending (unadjusted) rose £5 billion and the other counterparts fell £600 million.

Comment, page 25

Stockbroker sheds 48 jobs to cut costs

Forty-eight employees of Strauss Turnbull, the stockbroker, have become the latest casualties of the wave of retrenchment that has cost thousands of jobs in the City and on Wall Street since the stock market crash.

Responding to the fall in business, the broker yesterday made 32 staff redundant and said that 16 others would shortly be retiring as part of its efforts to cut costs.

Although Strauss Turnbull is well known for its Eurobond activities, two-thirds of the cuts fell in its settlements department.

Birmid staff ponder the future under Blue Circle

Thoughts turn to early cuts

By Alexandra Jackson

While National Westminster Bank's new issues department began searching for the gremlin which has put the result of Blue Circle's bid for Birmid Qualcast back in the melting pot, employees of the Midlands consumer products group are wondering who they will be working for next week.

At the beginning of this week Birmid had, apparently, been taken over by Britain's biggest cement manufacturer. The victory had been secured by a sliver of shares accounting for 0.01 per cent of the total. Now the company may still be independent. The bid has, literally, gone to a recount.

Mr Alan Emson, the finance director of Birmid, acknowledges that living with the uncertainty is worst of all. But he takes time off to observe remarkably cheerfully in the circumstances: "Seeing the grass growing and the sun shining makes me think what a fantastic year it is going to be for lawnmowers."

The minds of Birmid's top management have clearly been taken off the ball. Mr Peter Prateley, the chairman, and Mr Emson have spent hours in London making presentations to institutional shareholders to persuade them to back Birmid.

At the divisional level, Mr Tony Bourke, managing director of New World, Birmid's gas cooker business, must have a feeling of *déjà vu*. Last year, New World was sold to Birmid by TI Group. He points out: "That was an agreed sale to a group which understands consumer products. Now we can move quickly for investment and marketing purposes. TI was a production-led engineering business so it was difficult to get a quick response."

But he expressed some worries about the future: "We are confident of our prospects as a successful market leader but we have worries that we could come across the same problem with Blue Circle, whose main business is cement. It is not necessarily a matter of willingness but more a matter of understanding," he explained.

Mr Bourke has kept the workers well informed: "We have engendered a mood of confidence which allows the workforce to see we are in control, and not being controlled," he said. "Productivity at the factory level has not suffered."

Mr Frank Barker, a senior shop steward at Qualcast Garden Products in Derby which makes 700,000 electric lawnmowers a year, can also confirm that productivity has not suffered. But he observes: "In general, people on the shop floor don't know a lot about shares. They have been quite happy with the way things are. What they fear is a step into the unknown.

"They know that takeovers often lead to redundancies so they fear for their jobs. We have 50 people who have been here over 20 years, several going back to when Qualcast was bought by Birmid in 1965. They would not stop here so long if they did not like it."

Meanwhile in the City, all the bankers, brokers and the Takeover Panel are remaining silent as to exactly what is being unveiled in the verification process. They all agree, however, it is in everyone's interest to get the matter clearly resolved. "We should have a result in a matter of days rather than weeks," said Mr Peter Frazer of the panel.

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TEMPUS

Sit on your hands at the BP show

When the history books come to be written, 1987 will be seen as a year of action-packed drama for British Petroleum.

As the story unfolded, the scene shifted from Cleveland, Ohio in the United States, to the Treasury in Whitehall, from Kuwait to Glasgow and back to the Treasury again. We still await the denouement.

Few companies have hogged the headlines for so long, or in quite the way BP did last year.

The audience applauded when BP at last mopped up the Standard Oil minority, and gasped with admiration when it paid for the acquisition with a rights issue and manoeuvred the Government off its back in a single sleight of hand.

After the interval, now referred to as Black Monday, the Government share sale flopped disastrously.

But before the shocked audience could recover, a mystery purchaser for BP's partly-paid shares made its sinister appearance.

He was soon unmasked, but not before he had amassed a significant stake. The Kuwait Investment Office now has nigh on 20 per cent of BP's equity, and yesterday, was still buying.

To regain the initiative, BP swooped on Britoil, and with 80 per cent in its pocket, grows more confident daily of coming to an agreement with the Treasury about the golden share, and winning full control of this prize North Sea group.

Most worrying for BP is the presence of the KIO. Even if its intentions are wholly benign, having simply spotted a good long-term investment, the presence of any shareholder with more than 60 per cent of the partly paid shares will cause as much discomfiture as did the original owner of these shares, the British government.

Just as BP's need to raise new equity collided with the Government's desire to sell its shareholding, a similar collision may occur in the future between BP's corporate needs and the Kuwaiti's strategic objectives.

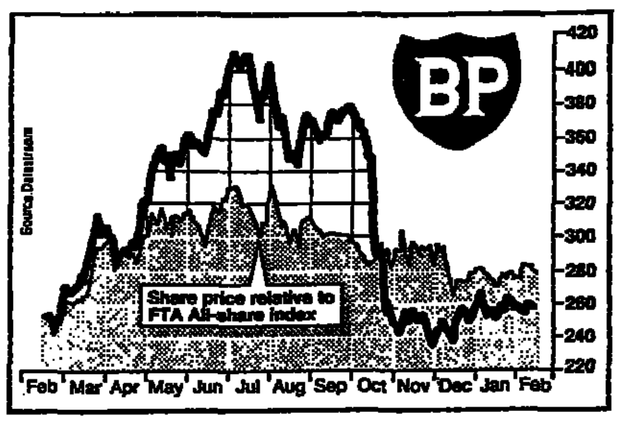
The £2.5 billion bid for Britoil looks inspired on a long-term strategic view. Short-term, it will significantly dilute BP's earnings — BP's cost of capital will be in the region of £250 million a year against Britoil's profits which are forecast to be nearer £130 million for last year.

The acquisition will also raise BP's debt to 40 per cent of debt plus equity, rather than the 30 per cent it professes to feel comfortable with.

Assuming an oil price oscillating between $16 and $18 a barrel, (current price $15.95) BP's net income could dip to £1.3 billion compared with last year's £1.4 billion, leaving the shares on a prospective multiple of about 11.6.

The 105p second instalment due on the partly paid in August may bring out some sellers.

The yield, which at 6.7 per cent is at a 45 per cent premium to the market, is attractive. But the shares have outperformed the FTA All-Share index by 9 per cent over the last year, and it is more than likely that the dismal oil industry fundamentals will reassert themselves. Avoid.



Midland Bank

Sir Kit McMahon came out fighting yesterday, but his persuasiveness was only partially convincing. As usual, Midland Bank has tangled the problem of comparing this year's results with last year's by rearranging and restating parts of its accounts, which hardly eases his task.

The bad debt provision came as no surprise. The Bank of England's matrix for bad debt, and the fall in the dollar, both came to Midland's aid. The former gave it ample excuse not to raise provisions further apart from pouring the £100 million general provision made last year into the more tax-efficient special provision pot. The exchange rate change cut £1 billion off the dollar value of Midland's exposure to the Third World, enabling it to expand the number of countries covered by the unchanged provisions.

Other parts of the results were more suprising, such as the collapse of international banking profits. The impact of equity trading on Midland Montagu's profits was also dramatic — and must say a great deal about the suffering of other securities firms.

Only £6 million of Greenwell's £35 million loss was on market-making, leaving £29 million as the margin by which thin business failed to cover costs. And most of that was before the crash and the subsequent drop in market turnover. On numbers like that, nerves must be jangling over at BZW and County NatWest.

Domestic banking, however, provided the bright spot in the figures. Useful work has been done to improve profit margins and the quality of the loan book. But even here there are doubts. The first half of the year produced a 50 per cent profit increase, followed by a sharp tailing off in the second half. Much of this was because of "seasonal" expenses such as the staff pay settlement. But there was also a reduction in income, and the signs are for a slowing down of British business this year — a phenomenon which all the banks will have to contend with.

Sir Kit insisted that Midland now has a corporate strategy. There are two strands to this: cutting expenses and co-operating with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation. It all looks remarkably like the bride grooming herself for a full marriage with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation which will supply the bulk of the international side. Increasingly Midland gives the impression that it sees its future essentially as a dynamic domestic bank.

Meanwhile, the other achievement of the year — rebuilding the bank's capital — has left Midland with some healthy ratios and the confidence to play down the likelihood of a rights issue even under new capital adequacy rules. All things being equal — which they will not be — profits next year should be a little over £700 million. That leaves the shares on a prospective p/e ratio of about 6 with a yield of 7.5, no longer the highest of the big four.

Disaster averted; hard slog still to come.

Henderson Group

No one ever thought the battle for control of Henderson Group, the manufacturer of garage doors, would be an open and shut case. But few could have imagined that such an unexciting company would attract so many predators.

First to spot the potential — or at least the first to do something about it — were the sharp-eyed Abdullah brothers who picked up a major stake for their Evered Holdings conglomerate.

It is a fair bet that they would have made a full bid had the stock market crash not scuttled their own share price. But then along came Newman Tonks, the building products company, which claimed to have spotted the potential in Henderson a full 10 years ago.

Henderson, still apprehensive of Evered making a hostile bid, happily recommended an offer from Newman Tonks, valuing the business at a fairly respectable £77 million.

But as one door closed, so another opened. Hepworth Ceramic, fast developing its own building products business, yesterday entered the fray with a slightly higher offer, having picked up the all-important 23 per cent stake from Evered. Newman Tonks has only itself to blame for not securing the holding.

Henderson argued that it would fit in well with Newman Tonks.

Hepworth Ceramic would accept that its case is not so strong but it has a distribution network serving the building trade which should comfortably be able to accommodate the range of Henderson equipment, garage doors for industrial and commerical use, ladders and security systems.

Hepworth Ceramic is offering 345p cash — 11p more than the mixture of cash and paper from Newman Tonks — putting a fairly generous exit price-earnings multiple of 21.2 on Henderson whose shares were languishing at 171p at one stage last year.

Shareholders are on to a winner. They should sit tight for the time being.

BP GROUP RESULTS, 1987

A momentous year for BP

WHAT WE DID

We acquired the remaining shares in Standard Oil, reinforcing our position as one of the three largest oil companies in the world.

We carried out exploration in 27 countries, increased oil production by 5.6%, and still managed to increase our reserves by 7%.

We confirmed our commitment to the North Sea by making our offer for Britoil.

We achieved a 70% increase in historical cost profit.

We were able, for the fifth year in succession, to announce an increased dividend to shareholders.

HOW WE DID

KEY FINANCIAL RESULTS	1987	1986
GROUP PROFIT (before extraordinary items)		
–Historical cost	£1391m	£817m
–Replacement cost	£1308m	£1779m
Earnings per share	24.9p	14.9p
Dividend per Ordinary Share for full year	12.5p	11.67p

BP Britain at its best.

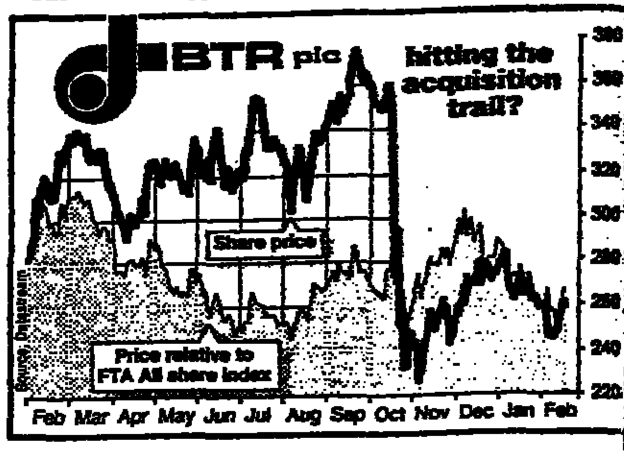
STOCK MARKET

Shares slip as interest rate worries revive

The big City fund managers remained firmly on the sidelines yesterday after another worrying set of economic figures, indicating that another rise in interest rates may be on the way.

Bank lending in January soared to £5.5 billion — which was above most market estimates. The latest average earnings figures also made gloomy reading, leading to fears of another wages explosion and rising inflation. Dealers are worried that this will limit the Chancellor's scope for tax cuts in next month's Budget.

The market appeared to take events in its stride. Dealers claimed that most of the bad news was already in the prices. But prices drifted lower later in the day as Wall Street opened lower. Turnover was a little better than of late, helped by BP — where 43 million shares were traded following the figures — and a programme trade carried out by one broker. A total of 411 million shares changed hands.



The FT-SE 100 opened lower and drifted throughout the day, closing 12 points down at 1,736.1. The FT index of 30 shares fell 7 points to 1,389.4.

Government securities reversed earlier falls of £½, helped by a firmer US bond market.

BP lost an early lead, to close 1p lower at 257p, while the partly-paid firmed 1p to 75p following full-year figures, showing net profits climbing from £817 million to £1.39 billion. The Kuwait Investment Office was out and about first thing, topping up its holding in BP via the new shares. It is estimated to have bought another 4 million, lifting its purchases in the past couple of days to 7 million. The KIO now owns about 20 per cent of the shares.

County Natwest, the broker, is having second thoughts about Northern Foods — down 2p at 278p — and the possibility of someone building a stake. Last week, Mr John Parker, an analyst at County, said there was no hard evidence to support it and claimed that it was difficult to see why the price was so high, having outperformed the rest of the market by 10 per cent.

● Reuters, the news agency, fell 5p to 485p. The Nomura Research Institute is advising clients to buy the shares and sees the price 40 per cent higher over the next two years. The recent 1987 results were well received and there is every prospect of a further, 20 per cent rise this year.

But now, he says, there are indications that a big buyer is doing the rounds. It looks as though one broker has picked up at least 1 per cent of the shares. Dart Corporation, a small Australian company capitalized at Aus$25 million (£10.2 million), bought a small stake in October — before the crash — but the prospect of launching a full bid is remote.

Dr John Randall, a former chairman of Avana, has denied getting together a consortium to bid. The best bet remains Hillsdown, down 2p at 276p, which has recently acquired a small stake in Tate & Lyle and the cash-rich Associated British Foods, 3p easier at 285p. But Mr Parker points out that the emergence of a big buyer does not guarantee that a bid will follow. He thinks there are better opportunities elsewhere in the sector — like Cadbury Schweppes, down 5p at 247p and Ranks Hovis McDougall, 3p dearer at 316p.

BTR, the industrial conglomerate, reflected the dull trend, closing 1p easier at 260p, as just 1.2 million shares changed hands.

But there is talk that th group is lining up another bi bid.

Norcros, GKN, Hawke Siddeley, Steetley and Seb have all been tipped in rece months as potential targe The prospect of another sta at Pilkington is also not bein ruled out.

The whispers have al spread to Europe with Pum the West German sporti supplies group, denying Wednesday that it was abo to sell a large stake to BTR.

But the best bet is a BTR b for Norcros, the printing ar building supplies group a the subject of a £570 milli bid from Williams Holdin last year.

Some dealers are convinc that it has been buying sha in Norcros and will so disclose a stake.

● Antler, the manufacturer of luggage an travel goods, rose 6p to 186p on growing hopes tha bid may be just round the corner. Saville Gordon, the Midlands conglomerate, holds an 8 per cent stake a market men claim it is poised to increase its ho before launching a full

Mr Geoff Allum, an ana at County NatWest, the br ker, pours cold water on t takeover stories and is urg clients to buy BTR.

BTR has full-year figu due out next month and Allum is forecasting pre profits of £585 million agai £505 million last year.

Norcros finished 12p do at 388p.

GKN held steady at 31 despite a big review of t company by Mr Paul Com ton and Mr Richard Harwo two analysts at Morgan Gr fell Securities, the broker, w rate the shares as a buy.

They believe that GKN excellent value in the curr difficult economic climate.

Wholesale Fittings, the sex-based wholesale electri distributor, sprang to li closing 32p higher at 46 with speculators excited by news that Thomson T-Li the industrial conglomer had acquired a 4.72 per c stake.

Thomson T-Line achieved a rapid transfor tion which has seen it cha from an ordinary maker caravans and trailers to mini-conglomerate in under two years.

Earlier this month, bought the Vernons foot pools business from Mr R ert Sangster, the million race-horse owner, for million. TTL's shares rem suspended at 108p.

Michael Clark a
Geoffrey Fost

Manx boom lifts Cresta into profit

By Michael Tate

Now that "closed" signs have gone up in Jersey and Guernsey business is booming in the Isle of Man, according to Mr Brian O'Connor, chairman of Cresta Holdings, and he has evidence. Cresta made profits of £973,000 in 1987, against a loss of £50,000 in the previous year.

Douglas-based Cresta, listed in London last summer, reports earnings of 5.5p a share and is paying a gross dividend of 0.75p a share — 0.6p to UK residents because of the Isle of Man's 20% withholding tax.

Mr O'Connor says the strict banking supervision rules introduced by the Manx Government three years ago have encouraged a big influx of businesses to the island and helped Cresta's financial services operations — estate agency and business adn istration — to lift profits f £114,000 to £462,000.

Its retirement homes velopment company m £257,000 in its first full y other construction inte earned £118,000, and the porate communications vision reported £109,000. motor division recov from losses of £191,000 contribute £27,000.

Cresta has been buyin Britain and by the end of year expects to be makin per cent of its profits out its island base. More Br acquisitions are planned ing the £1.5 million remaining from last Octo £6 million fund-raising, n gotiated bank facilities, possibly, shares and conv ible loan stock. Mr O'Co is aiming for a 60-40 spli favour of Britain.

صكا من الاصل

صورة عن الأصل

STOCK MARKET

ares slip as
terest rate
orries revive

Plessey on target with GEC telecommunications merger

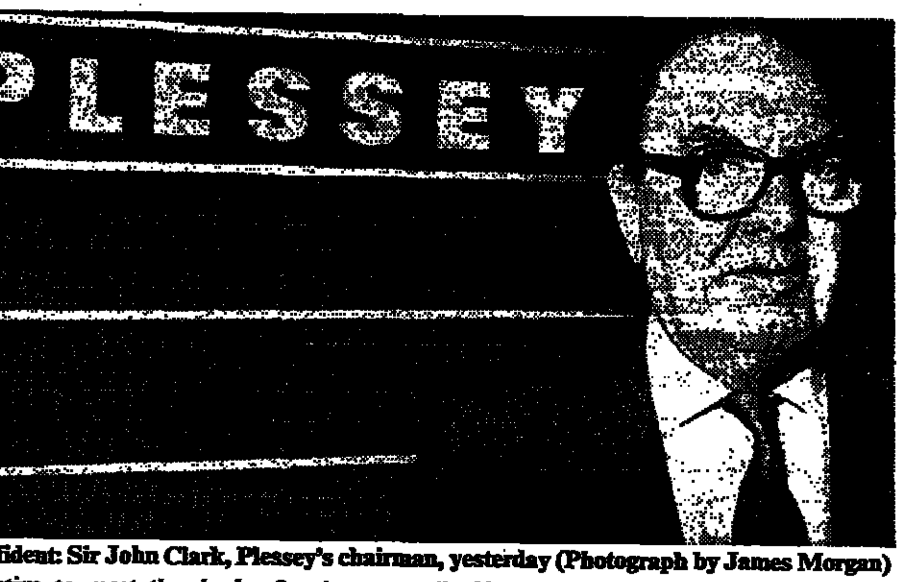
By Joe Joseph

Plessey, the electronics group, is confident of meeting an April 1 target for merging its telecommunications activities with those of General Electric Company, its British rival. A formal Class 1 Circular should be out early next month, allowing time for a Plessey extraordinary meeting to approve the deal by the end of March.

Denying that the £1.2 billion joint venture might be delayed as a result of problems agreeing the marriage terms, Sir John Clark, Plessey's chairman, said: "This is an extraordinarily complex deal and inevitably takes time to complete. However, both parties share a mutual target of April 1 to start operations as a joint venture company and negotiations are near completion."

Making clear that Plessey had no second thoughts about the deal, Sir John added: "We are satisfied that this joint venture is in the best interests of our shareholders." While a delay was possible it was neither party's aim.

"In the event it is damaging to delay and there is every incentive to meet the deadline. Uncertainty should be removed as quickly as possible," he said.


Confident: Sir John Clark, Plessey's chairman, yesterday (Photograph by James Morgan)

The assurance on the steady course of the negotiations was accompanied by a parallel assurance that Plessey's final quarter figures would be a record and would do much to brighten the company's dull performance so far this year. "We're going to have a good fourth quarter," Sir John predicted.

As warned at the half-way stage, Plessey yesterday reported a loss for the third quarter, albeit slightly smaller than some analysts had been expecting.

Sir John blamed lower orders from British Telecom for System X digital exchanges and the weighting of profit-taking on major contracts towards the end of the year for the fall in taxable profits from £45.1 million to £37.1 million in the three months to January 1. For the first nine months of the year, profits sank 20.5 per cent to £105.3 million.

Third quarter turnover was down from £337.9 million to £280.8 million, resulting in a cumulative nine-month fall of 14 per cent to £1.01 billion.

Brightening Plessey's prospects, Sir John said, were "a growing order book, in excess of £1.55 billion — an increase of 15 per cent since April 1987 — and the profit potential from our acquisitions of Sippican in the US and the worldwide semiconductor business of Ferranti."

He added: "We continue to make progress in our stated strategy of reducing dependence on our two major customers — British Telecom and the Ministry of Defence. For example, in our defence electronics division the order book for non-MOD customers has increased by 59 per cent over the year."

Responding to recurrent speculation that Plessey is negotiating the purchase of GEC's semiconductor activities, Sir John said: "Presently we are not," but that talks in the near future were "a possibility." How strong a possibility? "Enough said," Sir John said.

Plessey is to switch to half-yearly results from the next financial year.

"It is clear from past experience that quarterly results are often misleading and can give the wrong impression on trends," Sir John said.

COMMENT

Markets bordering on verge of complacency

For a market which is supposed to be beset with worries about overheating, the reaction to yesterday's economic news was bizarre. The equity market scarcely blinked, and gilts ended with reasonable gains on the day, with some reports of institutional buying.

It is good to see some symmetry in the reaction of the markets. The failure to rally after Tuesday's very good public sector borrowing figures was matched by an absence of panic selling after 11.30am yesterday. Even so, the markets' cool response appeared to border on the verge of complacency.

To take the three relevant figures in turn, beginning with average earnings. The increase in the rate to 8.5 per cent in December continued the worrying trend of the previous two months. Little comfort can be drawn from the fact that the recent increase has been concentrated in service industries. The trend of settlements in manufacturing, including that at Ford, points to faster growth in manufacturing earnings this year, and a considerably poorer outlook for unit wage costs than the 2.7 per cent rise in the 12 months to December.

Overtime and bonus payments may have helped explain a little of the average earnings rise, but a breakdown of service sector earnings suggests that many of the areas currently experiencing strong earnings growth are not those where overtime and bonuses are the norm.

There were mitigating factors in the £5.5 billion bank lending rise last month, and not just the fact that there was wild talk in the market beforehand of a £9 billion figure. There was almost certainly round-tripping, as the Bank of England almost brought itself to admit between gritted teeth. There may have been some switching between foreign currency and sterling borrowing, and the exceptionally high corporate tax payments would have had some effect on lending. Even so, all these may only mean that the underlying growth in bank lending is too fast for comfort, at about £4 billion a month, rather than outrageous, as implied by the £5.5 billion figure.

The third leg of the overheating picture was provided by the unemployment data, with the adjusted total down by 50,900 last month. Those looking for signs of a slowdown in the economy will have to look hard in these figures. True, there was a second successive monthly fall in vacancies, and the exceptionally mild January weather may mean that the job market looked stronger than it was last month. But the official view is that labour market remains very buoyant and, taken with other recent economic evidence, it is hard to argue with that.

The Chancellor is unlikely to act on interest rates as long as sterling remains rock solid against the mark. But the view is starting to gain ground that a sterling rate somewhere above DM3 may be needed to counter the pressures of overheating.

A central bank's vital task

The managers of at least one American-owned London securities house have been deeply impressed by the Bank of England's strong-arm tactics in making sure the second-line blue chip securities firms were kept supplied with credit during the October crash. Bank officials, they explained, went to the trouble of asking their treasurer if any of their usual bankers had cancelled and withdrawn their credit lines. And, hey presto, those very banks were soon on the telephone, solicitously inquiring whether any funds were required.

Impressive it may be, but scarcely surprising. The saving grace of the crisis was that share prices plummeted so fast that Treasuries and central banks were rapidly alerted to the danger of a financial collapse, learning instantly from blueprints of the 1929 crash, unearthed from long memories, archives and, if necessary, City bookshops.

The Bank acted fast with the Stock Exchange to keep tabs on firms' losses and Nigel Lawson, with commendable insight, swiftly abandoned the minister's natural prediliction to make light of what was happening on the exchanges, in favour of action to isolate the financial epidemic.

He and the Bank of England called for credit to be maintained and cut interest rates against the grain of monetary trends. The US Federal Reserve rapidly followed suit. Nor, it turns out, were these merely lofty exortations.

Behind the public words, the Bank of England was making sure that the easier credit it had permitted was put to good use, to stop any chain of financial collapse before it started. It appears to have worked, making nonsense of any ideological or political objections to helping the market work better in crisis.

That is part of the central banker's job. The Bank of England's power to get its way without formal right of command was increasingly challenged during the days of increasing arrogance among international financial houses in the 18 heady months up to the crash. That authority rapidly reasserted itself when trouble came that could affect all regardless of their own prudence.

Bankers and securities companies allowed their arms to be twisted (however complainingly) for the same reason as they have done for nearly two hundred years. They trust the Bank's understanding and commitment to the health of the system.

The Bank was not inclined to comment yesterday. That is clearly a case of satisfied reticence rather than embarrassment. For the events of October greatly strengthen the central bank's previous role as the ultimate supervisor of the financial markets, previously in decline. When Sir Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman, commended central bankers for this vital task rather than rule-makers like the Securities and Investments Board and America's SEC or ministries of trade or finance, his wisdom was no doubt mixed with gratitude.

Petrocorp purchase faces new obstacles

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The British Gas £300 million purchase of the New Zealand state oil and gas company Petrocorp could be delayed by a move by one of the groups which competed with it for the company.

Brierley Investments Limited (BIL), which has a 15 per cent stake in Petrocorp and which made an offer to acquire a 70 per cent shareholding in the company and to underwrite the remainder of the government shareholding if it were floated to the New Zealand public, is seeking permission to increase its present holding.

Under New Zealand law it has to have government approval to add to its holding, although it has said that it has not finally decided whether it will do so.

The BIL chief executive, Mr Paul Collins, said that no decision had yet been made on whether it will sell its 15 per cent to British Gas. He said: "There is a real possibility that we would like to look at increasing our shareholding."

British Gas could face two further obstacles to the deal in New Zealand.

Mr Jim Bolger, the opposition National Party leader, said his party would introduce a private member's Bill in an attempt to prevent the company from falling into overseas hands. Labour Party MPs indicated they would consider supporting such a measure.

And Maori tribes said they would take court action to block the sale until their outstanding land claims had been settled. The tribes are claiming the return of more than a million acres of land in Taranaki province on North Island, where Petrocorp has substantial assets

Royale Belge bows out of battle for La Générale

By Colin Narbrough

Royale Belge, Belgium's leading insurance company, yesterday said it had sold its 3.7 per cent holding in Société Générale de Belgique — "La Générale" — the country's biggest holding company and target of a bitter and protracted takeover battle.

A spokesman for Royale Belge said the 1.05 million share stake took the insurer out of the battle in which shifting alliances of Belgian and French interests are seeking to block a hostile bid from Signor Carlo de Benedetti, the Italian entrepreneur.

Some analysts saw the development signalling the exit of Group Bruxelles Lambert, the main shareholder in Royale Belge, from the intricate power struggle, leaving Financière de Suez of France better positioned to seek control of La Générale for the Franco-Belgian grouping it leads.

Royale Belge did not disclose the price obtained for selling its stake to Luxemburg's Banque Générale, in which La Générale has an indirect holding, but analysts believed the disposal was made at 5,000 Belgian francs per share.

The Luxemburg buyer is 44 per cent owned by Générale de Banque, Belgium's largest banking house in which La Générale currently has a 13.47 per cent stake. This will be diluted to 10 per cent under a cross-holding deal reached last week with Amro Bank of The Netherlands.

Royale Belge, whose main shareholders are Groupe Bruxelles Lambert, another leading Belgian holding company, and the French insurer, Union d'Assurance de Paris, will not now be subscribing to the defensive capital increase planned by La Générale.

Signor de Benedetti claims to have control of 38 per cent of La Générale and has launched a bid for another 15 per cent at 4,000 francs a share.

High level of demand for AMI

By Alexandra Jackson

The offer for sale of AMI Healthcare, the hospitals group, was 2.3 times oversubscribed. Employees' preferential applications have been allocated in full. Miss Jane Kelly, a director, said: "We are delighted, particularly in these markets, to have received this level of interest from private individuals and institutional investors alike."

Applicants for 200 shares will receive 150 shares; those for 400 to 1,000 shares will receive 50 per cent of the shares applied for; and those requesting 1,500 shares and above will be allocated 42.5 per cent.

The sale comprises 35 per cent of all the shares, putting a value of £142.5 million on the company.

● Lists for hand-delivered applications for London Forfaiting's offer for sale closed yesterday, but application forms received by post will be accepted until tomorrow. No indication has been given as to the initial interest shown for the offer, so as not to give postal applicants an advantage.

Ferruzzi poised for French buy

Gruppo Ferruzzi, the acquisition-hungry Italian agribusiness group, looks set to take over 90 per cent of Lesieur, the French edible oil company, for about Fr1.5 billion (£149 million).

Industry sources in Paris said the acquisition would be undertaken by Ferruzzi's French sugar subsidiary, Beghin-Say.

Lesieur's mushroom unit, Royal Champignon, and its canned food division, William Saurin, would remain under the control of Lesieur's parent, Saint Louis, in which Ferruzzi has been buying shares since November and now holds a stake of 12.39 per cent.

Despite an earlier appeal from M François Guillaume, the French agriculture minister, for the banks to help prevent French food firms falling into foreign hands, the government has indicated it would not oppose a Ferruzzi takeover of Lesieur.

'Substantial' libel damages for Ritblat

British Land Company won "substantial" libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations that it set out to deceive the public and its shareholders.

The London *Evening Standard* newspaper agreed to pay the damages to the company and Mr John Ritblat, its chairman and managing director, over an article that followed the release of British Land's 1986 results.

Mr Andrew Caldecott, the company's counsel, said: "The article contained the serious suggestion that British Land and John Ritblat had set out to deceive the public and shareholders by inflating the company's worth."

He told Mr Justice Hobhouse that a press release summarized the company's accounts and contained a valuation report for Plantation House in the City, belonging to British Land.

With the property valued at £121 million, the chairman's statement adopted the valuer's comment that if the site were available for immediate redevelopment there would be a surplus of about £60 million.

While making it clear that redevelopment was regarded as a medium-term prospect, the statement pointed out that the valuer's comment was relevant to a full appreciation of British Land's worth.

But the article, headed "Ritblat's £60 million confusion", criticized Mr Ritblat's use of the comment, and suggested he had manufactured valuation surpluses out of thin air, said Mr Caldecott.

The article went on to add: "It says much about the frothy state of the London property market that Mr Ritblat can conjure up theoretical surpluses like this. It also tells us something about Mr Ritblat."

There were also criticisms of the way the company's press release treated other assets, in a manner to make them appear "haphazard and speculative".

The suggestions made by the article were "entirely untrue"

The newspaper now acknowledged unreservedly that British Land's accounts were "entirely proper" and had agreed to apologize, pay the damages and all legal costs.

Mr Greg McGill, solicitor for the newspaper's publishers, Mr Louis Kirby, the former editor, and Mr Michael Foster, a journalist, told the judge they had not intended to cast doubt on British Land or Mr Ritblat's integrity.

APPOINTMENTS

Heery International: Mr **Nicholas Terry** has been made deputy managing director of Heery Architects and Engineers and Mr **David Badder** managing director of Heery Program Management.

Sphere Drake Insurance Group: Mr **John Head** has joined the board.

Scott Ltd: Mr **Andrew Carr-Locke** is now the financial director.

Michelsons: Mr **Norman Hutchings** is named as export director and Mr **Robert Moore** as director responsible for Michelsons' shirt division.

Security Settlements: Mr **Reginald Pomphrett** becomes a non-executive director.

Blackwood Hodge: Mr **Roger Pinnington** will become chairman and Mr **George Law** deputy chairman, both from May 12.

Gentry
anded
n row

deal between the Duke of
evonshire, aged 68, the
easury and the Countryside
ommission, exempting the
ke's son and heir, the
arquess of Hartington, from
ying £18 million capital
nsfer tax upon his father's
ath, has come under fire. As
rt of the deal, made some 10
ars ago, the Duke's Chats-
orth Settlement Trust agreed
conserve his Bolton Abbey
tate in North Yorkshire —
,000 acres of scenic farm-
d and grouse moor plus a
ined abbey — for public
joyment. Locals now claim
at the Duke — whose son
es at Beamsley Hall, on the
tate — promised to improve
e estate, to which the public
ready had access, with
ndscaping and the addition
recreational facilities. And,
a meeting yesterday of The
orkshire Dales National
rk Committee, it was angri-
alleged that he had done
thing. North Yorkshire
ounty Councillor Keith
ckyer, described it as "the
pital transfer scandal of the
cade. He got the deal for not
king away from the public
hat the public already had."
t Peter Bostock, the secre-
ry and solicitor to the Settle-
ent Trust, said: "There was
question of the Duke
dertaking to do anything to
prove the land. An exemp-
n to tax was given on the
ounds that the land was of
tionally scenic importance
d the agreement was that
thing would be done to
oil it."

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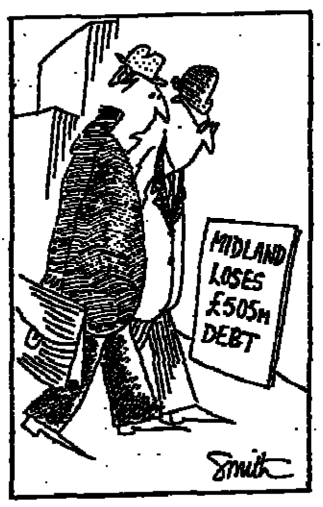
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

The Devil's advocates

Thought for the day for City lawyers: speaking at the 75th annual dinner of the *Institute of Petroleum* the other evening, Arne Oien, the Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy, had them rolling *in the aisles* when he told the tale of how St Peter was carrying out his routine inspection of the boundary fence between heaven and hell. One day he noticed some fence posts had been moved, giving *extra space to the other side* to which they were not entitled. Much annoyed, he called up Lucifer, demanding the fence be moved back to its original position. Lucifer ignored him, whereupon St Peter threatened to sue. Lucifer remained unmoved. "But you haven't got any lawyers," he said.

Unbudgeted

Andrew Smith, economist at CL-Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank, has lost the Chancellor's Budget speech — at least the version he'd prepared for the firm's prediction, which will be presented in the style of the actual documents. So, be warned if someone approaches you, saying they have Mr Lawson's *innermost secrets* . . .



"I told them, but they wouldn't listen"

Red guard

Richard Branson's acceptance of a directorship with Intourist has caught the eye of the City's small band of Moscow-watchers who believe the Virgin Group founder's foray into the Soviet Union could help break the ice for other British firms starting to look East. The quest is also on among analysts for an appropriate brand name for his *Mates* condoms which he hopes to market there. One suggestion I heard this one has promise — *Tovarishchi*, which, translated, means Comrades. Whatever the name, they should have no difficulty outselling the current leading brand in Moscow, a robust, Indian-made prophylactic, known to most Soviet men by its nickname: *galoshers*.

Saucers fail to fly

The final remnants of Freddie Laker's failed airline have finally come down to earth. Touche Ross, the airline's liquidators, have, I hear, just disposed of the last remaining relics of the Laker empire — all 17,000 pieces. The relics in question were part of a Wedgwood Regency bone china tea and dinner service, originally intended for use by the airline's first-class passengers. White, with a classic gold rim and embossed with the initials RS, the crockery, believed to have cost Laker about £7,000, had, however, never seen the inside of an aircraft or even been unpacked. It was still with Wedgwood when Laker went bust. In all, about 600 complete sets comprising cup, saucer, two plates, salad bowl, butter dish and coaster went under the hammer at Gatwick and were sold at £6 a set — 75 per cent below the cost price. The rest were sold as job lots — with a Dagenham jeweller buying up almost everything. "They'd be ideal if your intials happened to be RS," said a Touche Ross spokesman. "Although the crockery only fetched a few pounds, it will help pay a few outstanding creditors."

● Hands up all those in the City who would not know the difference anyway! A correction in yesterday's *Northern Echo* reads: "Tony Carlisle, one of the entertainers at the Miss England contest at Stockton on Monday night is a George Michael look-alike, not a Michael Jackson look-alike as stated in our report."

Carol Leonard

California bill aims to ease curbs on bids by US banks

Sacramento (Reuter) — A bill has been introduced into the California legislature which seeks to allow any US bank to bid for a Californian bank if it is the subject of a foreign acquisition attempt.

Mr Ross Johnson, a state assemblyman and one of the bill's sponsors, said the measure would not affect Bank of Tokyo's proposed $750 million (£428 million) purchase of Standard Chartered Bank's Union Bank subsidiary in Los Angeles.

"It's merely coincidental that the two events (the bill and the Union Bank sale) are occurring at the same time," Mr Johnson said.

Under current California law, banks not based in 12 western US states will not be allowed into California until 1991, but foreign banks doing business in the state are allowed to buy other California institutions.

Under federal law, foreign banks may do business in the US, but they may operate in only one state.

"My intent is not to discourage foreign investment . . . but it doesn't seem fair to me to encourage foreign investment to the exclusion of domestic banks," Mr Johnson said.

Under the proposed legislation, any US bank could request notification of an attempt by a foreign institution to acquire a California bank, he said. The US bank would then have 90 days to submit a competing bid.

Mr Johnson, who is vice chairman of the state assembly's finance and insurance committee, said he expects the committee to hold initial hearings on the legislation within the next few weeks.

At $290 billion, California banks have the second largest asset base in the nation after New York, the California Bankers Association said. The association said it opposes any attempt to allow banks outside the west into California before 1991.

Record year for cognac sales

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The cognac producers of France had a record year in 1987 with nearly 162 million bottles of their brandies being shipped out of the area round the towns of Cognac and Jarnac. That was an increase of 8.8 per cent over 1986.

It was mainly because the taste for cognac grew in the US — the biggest market for brandy — and the Far East.

Britain, the second largest market, saw a levelling off in shipments following a 9.2 per cent increase the previous year. But trade reports in Britain have indicated that there has probably been some growth in actual sales during 1987 in a spirits market which has been performing relatively poorly.

Nearly 17 million bottles were landed in Britain during the year, a 1.6 per cent decline on 1986. But the value was up by 5.4 per cent.

A record 33.4 million bottles were shipped to the US, a 19 per cent increase on the previous year. This was partly due to a rush of imports early in 1987 when a trade war was threatened between the US and Europe which would have meant crippling US import duties on cognac. But actual sales also went up during the year by 13 per cent.

This has happened in a country where the anti-alcohol lobby is strong, pointed out M Gerard Sturm, the director of the Bureau National du Cognac, who added: "It clearly shows Americans are moving more and more towards high quality products in an environment which is quite hostile to alcoholic products."

Shipments to Asia were up by 30 per cent, with Hong Kong taking 31 per cent more, Japan more than 20 per cent extra, Singapore an extra 27 per cent and Malaysia another 22 per cent.

Shipments to Europe as a whole were stable, showing a marginal rise of 0.5 per cent. West Germany, like Britain, retained its 1986 level after two years of strong growth.

Daimler profits hold firm

By Our City Staff

Daimler-Benz, West Germany's biggest industrial group, best known for its Mercedes cars, yesterday announced that it managed to hold profits steady last year, despite the braking effect of the dollar slump.

The diversified motor, aerospace and defence group estimated that the lower dollar, which made West German goods internationally less competitive, wiped about DM2 billion (£671 million) off sales.

But in contrast to the dramatic profits and sales slide reported by Porsche, whose high-performance cars were badly hit in the US, Mercedes cars brought Daimler a virtually unchanged DM31.5 billion in revenue last year, overcoming a 10 per cent fall in sales to the US market.

The Stuttgart company said group profits were in line with the DM1.8 billion seen in 1986, but gave no details. Sales were 2 per cent up at DM67 billion.

While car sales were flat, commercial vehicle sales were up 8 per cent at DM19.2 billion, with demand for heavy vehicles proving particularly strong.

The figures, contained in a letter to shareholders, point to slightly higher profits being announced for last year which should allow Herr Edzard Reuter, the chairman, to keep the dividend at least unchanged at DM12, as he has indicated earlier.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Strong sterling dents profits at Photo-Me

The strength of sterling against other currencies, particularly the dollar, dented the first-half performance of Photo-Me International, which makes and operates photographic booths and identification systems. Currencies strongly affect Photo-Me, which operates in more than 100 countries.

Interim pretax profits for the six months to October 31 edged up to £6.68 million from £6.05 million, with turnover growing by just over £5 million to £39.5 million. Earnings per share rose from 10.18p to 11.44p. An interim dividend of 0.6p will be paid, up 50 per cent on last year.

Holmes buys Facet Group

Holmes & Marchant, the marketing consultant, is paying up to £3 million for Facet Group Holdings, a broadly-based communications advisory business. Holmes is paying £600,000 in cash now, with the rest due over five years and dependent on Facet's profitability. Facet made £291,000 in the year ended last April on a turnover of £82 million.

Sims' £1.2m expansion

Sims Catering Butchers is paying £1.22 million for Aristocracy Foods, a meat processing operation in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. The deal, financed by the issue of 285,000 shares which will be placed by Wood Mackenzie, will enable Sims to move its steak boning operation to a purpose-built location immediately.

Alphameric IGG buy

Alphameric, the computer keyboards and terminals maker, is strengthening its new data broadcast division with the acquisition of IGG Industries for £864,000. The deal is being financed principally from cash resources but the 3i group is subscribing for £1.5 million of new, unquoted 7 per cent convertible preference shares to be issued at par. The proceeds will be used partly for IGG and also for working capital for the group's data broadcast operations.

Alphameric says that IGG's expertise will complement its existing data broadcast business, Bishopsgate Terminals.

LDH profits rise sharply

LDH Group, wholesale distributors of furnishing and upholstery fabrics, has produced a large rise in pretax profits — up from £278,000 to £501,000 for the six months to November 30. The company is optimistic about the outcome for the full year. As usual LDH is not paying an interim dividend. Any increase in dividends will be assessed at the year-end.

Geest wins contract

Geest, the fruit and vegetable distributor, has won a contract to supply 40 Sainsbury supermarkets in the South-east of England. The contract means a £9.1 million investment at Geest's Maidstone, Kent, depot. The new contract and a restructuring of the group's marketing organization will significantly enhance customer service and profitability.

Disposals at Expamet

Expamet International, the supplier of components and services to the security, building and industrial markets, has made two disposals. It has sold Special Metals (Fabrication) for £266,049 plus the repayment of a parent company loan of £633,951.

The company has also sold the loss-making business of Expanded Metal Corporation in the United States "in view of the static market for expanded metal in the United States and continued intense price competition." It is selling the assets for a price of $2.3 million (£1.31 million). Expamet has also purchased a 25 per cent stake in a Dublin security products company called KES Security Syestems for IR£225,000 (£200,000) and has taken out an option to purchase the whole of the business.

Futura profit at standstill

Futura Holdings, the footwear manufacturer and distributor, indicates that pretax profits for 1987 are expected to be in the region of £450,000 compared with £452,561 last time. In recent years, this Cheshire-based concern has tended to record interim losses followed by profits at the year-end.

Two more jet orders at BAe

British Aerospace has won an order for two BAe 146 regional jetliners from the Western Australian subsidiary of Ansett Airlines. The deal was announced 24 hours after BAe revealed it had orders for three of the aircraft from Canada. The five orders are worth more than $100 million.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon	300	47	53	-	4	12	-
(*337)	330	27	35	43	12	22	25
	360	10	20	27	28	38	40
Bass	750	70	90	105	17	27	35
(*785)	800	40	60	75	37	48	55
	850	20	40	55	68	78	85
Brit Air	140	22	27	32	3½	8	10
(*156)	160	10	15	21	11	16	20
	180	3	8	14	26	31	33
Brit Com	280	27	37	47	12	22	25
(*293)	300	18	27	35	23	32	37
	330	8	15	23	45	52	53
Brit Gas	130	10	16	19	6	10	14
(*133)	140	5	10	13	12	16	20
	160	1½	5	-	29	31	-
BP	240	20	29	35	9	13	18
(*257)	260	8	18	25	20	25	30
	280	3½	11	-	37	42	-
Britoil	420	80	82	87	2	4	6
(*497)	460	41	50	60	7	7	15
	500	9	20	25	18	20	25
Cons Gold	800	70	105	125	60	80	100
(*818)	850	45	80	100	95	105	135
	900	30	67	-	135	140	-
Courtauld	300	25	35	42	10	22	23
(*309)	330	11	22	28	28	40	42
	360	3	12	18	53	63	65
	390	1½	7	-	83	93	-
Com Union	300	22	33	38	18	23	28
(*308)	330	9	20	25	40	43	48
	360	5	12	17	63	67	70
C & W	330	33	48	62	13	25	33
(*346)	360	18	30	43	28	40	47
	390	8	22	30	52	60	67
GEC	140	18	23	26	3	6	9
(*152)	160	5	12	15	13	17	18
	180	2	6	8	29	32	34
GKN	280	38	46	52	7	14	18
(*313)	300	23	35	42	14	22	28
	330	7	20	30	33	38	45
	350	3	12	-	55	62	-
Grand Met	390	78	88	-	4	8	-
(*462)	420	50	67	75	8	17	22
	460	24	42	50	25	33	38
	500	9	23	-	50	55	-
ICI	950	125	150	-	14	26	-
(*1083)	1000	82	117	135	30	45	60
	1050	52	90	-	52	67	-
	1100	30	67	88	82	95	110
Jaguar	300	34	46	55	12	20	27
(*320)	330	15	29	40	26	37	43
	360	7	20	30	50	55	60
Land Sec	420	87	93	102	3	8	13
(*497)	460	53	63	77	7	16	25
	500	27	40	53	22	38	42
M & S	160	22	28	32	4	7	10
(*176)	180	8	16	21	11	15	19
	200	2	9	14	27	30	32
R-Royce	120	10½	14	18	7	13	14
(*122)	130	6	10	13	13	17	20
	140	3	7	10	20	24	25
STC	220	21	31	37	10	19	24
(*235)	240	12	19	29	23	30	34
	260	6	13	22	38	44	50
Sainsbury	200	29	35	-	4	9	-
(*219)	220	13	22	26	12	18	23
	240	6	12	18	25	32	34
Shell	1000	70	100	120	40	55	75
(*1054)	1050	40	74	-	68	83	-
	1100	22	54	75	108	110	130
Storehse	220	28	35	40	6	15	16
(*238)	240	14	23	30	14	23	25
	260	7½	14	20	28	35	36
	280	4	9	-	48	50	-
Trafalgar	300	35	40	50	6	17	18
(*320)	330	17	25	33	20	28	33
	360	6	15	22	42	50	55
TSB	100	12	16	-	3	4½	-
(*109)	110	6	11	14	6½	10	12
	120	3½	6½	10	15	17	19
Woolworth	260	30	35	42	10	17	22
(*275)	280	18	23	30	17	28	32
	300	9	17	-	37	47	-
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Amstrad	120	26	32	38	1	4	8
(*145)	130	18	25	31	2	7	11
	140	10	19	25	5½	10	16
Barclays	420	52	55	67	8	18	25
(*463)	460	20	37	50	23	35	45
	500	6	20	28	55	62	70
Beecham	390	75	88	-	2	8	-
(*461)	420	48	67	77	4	13	23
	460	18	42	55	17	30	40
	500	6	24	37	45	53	63
Boots	220	18	26	30	7	15	20
(*226)	240	7	12	20	20	24	27
	260	2	9	14	34	40	42
BTR	240	27	32	41	3	11	16
(*259)	260	12	20	29	10	20	25
	280	4½	13	21	25	33	35
Blue Circ	420	15	33	45	20	38	47
(*416)	460	5	17	32	50	63	72
	500	2	8	20	87	97	105
Dixons	180	15	24	30	3	9	14
(*191)	200	5	15	20	16	22	26
	220	2	8	15	34	36	40

	Series	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Glaxo	950	90	127	160	15	35	47
(*1019)	1000	60	97	125	32	54	65
	1050	30	68	105	55	80	87
	1100	19	46	-	95	110	-
Hanson	110	25	26½	-	¼	2½	-
(*133)	120	15½	21	24	1½	4½	7½
	130	7½	13	17½	4	8	11
	140	3½	8½	14	9	13½	16½
Hawker	420	72	80	92	4	15	27
(*485)	460	40	52	70	13	32	40
	500	15	33	50	28	52	65
Lonhro	220	42	43	46	3	7	11
(*252)	240	23	26	33	9	14	20
	260	7½	17	24	20	24	30
	280	3	9	15	34	38	44
Midland	360	42	52	60	5	13	23
(*398)	390	15	32	42	20	28	40
	420	5	20	32	38	47	57
Sears	120	9	14	16	3	7	11
(*125)	130	3½	9	12	9	13	18
	140	1	5	9	16	21	24
Tesco	140	13	18	22	3	6	8
(*149)	160	4	9	12	14	14	20
	183	2	-	-	37	-	-
Thorn EMI	500	67	94	105	4	18	28
(*560)	550	30	64	67	15	35	46
	600	8	32	45	47	60	75
	650	3	22	-	95	98	-
THF	200	22	32	37	3	9	13
(*218)	220	8	20	25	11	17	23
	240	3	11	16	25	32	37
Unilever	460	47	55	78	6	21	30
(*489)	500	18	36	56	20	40	50
	550	4	18	38	55	73	80
Wellcome	360	57	72	90	3	14	23
(*406)	390	32	55	70	9	25	35
	420	14	40	55	22	38	48
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAA	100	14	17	23	7	12	15
(*104)	110	8	14	18	13	18	20
	120	5½	9	-	20	23	-
Brit Aero	300	65	72	-	8	17	-
(*357)	330	38	48	55	16	25	30
	360	19	33	40	32	38	45
	390	*10*	*23*	*32*	*52*	*56*	*62*
BAT Ind	390	58	68	-	11	15	-
(*436)	420	35	48	58	22	25	33
	460	18	30	40	43	47	63
	500	8	-	-	75	-	-
Brit Tele	200	46	49	-	1½	4	-
(*240)	220	29	33	40	4½	9	14
	240	14½	20	28	12	18	21
Cadbury	220	35	42	-	7	10	-
(*248)	240	21	30	35	13	18	20
	260	11	18	23	26	30	32
Guinness	260	30	37	42	13	19	23
(*276)	280	18	25	32	23	28	33
	300	10	20	25	35	40	45
Ladbroke	300	70	75	-	5	8	-
(*359)	330	45	53	57	11	16	22
	360	26	35	42	25	30	37
LASMO	280	40	52	62	16	30	37
(*304)	300	25	35	45	25	37	45
	330	15	27	35	45	50	60
Pilkington	200	30	35	42	8	13	17
(*215)	220	17	25	27	17	23	27
	240	9	15	17	30	37	38
	260	5	12	-	48	52	-
Plessey	140	20	26	32	6	11	13
(*153)	160	11	14	21	17	21	22
	180	5	8	-	31	35	-
P & O	460	80	90	-	7	15	-
(*531)	500	50	65	77	18	25	30
	550	23	37	52	42	47	52
Prudential	800	55	75	90	43	50	60
(*818)	850	35	55	67	73	80	85
	900	18	37	-	108	110	-
Racal	200	21	28	36	10	14	17
(*206)	220	11	18	25	22	26	28
	240	7	11	-	39	41	-
RTZ	300	70	80	-	10	15	-
(*355)	330	45	50	62	17	25	30
	360	28	35	43	30	40	42
	380	15	-	-	50	-	-
Vaal Reefs	90	16	22	25	7	12	15
(*$98)	100	12	17	20	14	18	23
	110	8	12		20	27	
Tr 11¾%	104	1½	-	-	1/32	-	-
1991	106	3/16	-	-	11/16	-	-
(*106)	108	1/32	-	-	2½	-	-
	110	1/32	-	-	4½	-	-
Tr 11¾%	114	3 7/32	4 5/16	-	3/32	1 7/16	-
03/07	116	1 9/16	3 5/32	-	¾	2¼	-
(*117)	118	17/32	2 7/32	-	1 9/16	3 7/32	-
	120	7/32	1½	-	2½	4 7/16	-
	122	1/16	15/16	-	4½	5¾	-

FT-SE INDEX (*1737)

Series	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
1600	137	147	162	—	2	17	28	—
1650	88	105	125	145	5	27	43	55
1700	42	67	92	112	18	45	62	77
1750	16	40	65	80	40	70	85	100
1800	5	23	43	55	82	100	115	128
1850	2	13	27	40	125	140	148	158
1900	½	6	17	25	177	182	190	197

February 18, 1988 Total: 21670 Calls 13422 Puts 8240 FT-SE: Calls 1165 Puts 1628

*Underlying security price.

SEC chief says US should learn a lesson from Japan

From David Watts, Tokyo

Mr David Ruder, chairman of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), said American investors should learn a lesson from their Japanese counterparts and keep cool when the market starts to fall.

He told a news conference: "In my opinion, one of the primary causes of the (October 1987) market break was an effort by some institutional investors holding large portfolios of securities to sell at a time when they saw the market was at the beginning of a decline, creating insufficient liquidity in the market.

"In the Japanese market, which didn't go down as much as the American market, much of the selling was by foreign investors, and Japanese institutions were much more cautious and didn't join in the selling. I think I will go back to the US and give the message to institutional investors that they should join the Japanese in being more cautious about exiting the securities market.

"Japanese investment philosophy is much more long-range, and I think that philosophy is one which might well be utilized by American institutional investors as a means of producing wealth and prosperity, as well as providing assistance to a stock market which is susceptible to panic selling."

Keep cool: Ruder says US firms should be more cautious

Mr Ruder is here for talks with the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the finance ministry on closer co-operation in exchanging information about fraud such as insider trading, and about market conditions in times of volatility. He said a recent Japanese draft of a bill to strengthen controls on insider trading, and make it a *criminal offence*, indicated Japan was moving at a good pace toward tighter restrictions on such actions.

Revisions of the law on insider trading would cover 98 per cent of the sort of cases actionable under US law. Mr Tsuneo Fujita, director general of the finance ministry's securities bureau, said: "We felt our system is very close to perfect."

Japan lacks anything approaching a regulatory commission along the lines of the SEC, or Britain's Department of Trade and Industry, in a country where insider trading is almost a way of life.

According to reports in the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the new law would ban transactions by insiders of newly issued shares worth Y100 million (£440,000) or more.

The newspaper, apparently working from a ministry leak, said the bill would outline 24 definitions of insider information. Insiders are defined as people in a position to obtain information earlier than the public, such *as the company's* office-holders and employees, leading shareholders, analysts and journalists.

During his visit, Mr Ruder has stressed the need for greater co-ordination between international securities markets, calling for seven key steps:

- *consideration of* sound standards for disclosure, including mutually agreeable auditing and accounting standards;
- promotion of market fairness — including prohibitions against insider trading, market manipulation, and misrepresentation;
- encouraging the widespread availability of quotation and price information;
- creation of efficient and compatible national and international clearance and settlement systems;
- broker-dealer registration qualifications and conduct requirements designed to promote integrity and honesty in *the securities profession*;
- improvement of capital adequacy standards in order to provide greater stability and liquidity for national and international markets;
- creation of international surveillance and enforcement agreements.

Fairfax rules out Maxwell after editorial shake-up

Sydney (AFP) — The beleaguered *Australian* media group John Fairfax resolved its battle for editorial control yesterday and ruled out Mr Robert Maxwell as an acceptable buyer of any of its assets.

Mr Chris Anderson, who resigned last week as editor-in-chief of the Fairfax flagship newspaper *The Sydney Morning Herald*, emerged a winner by returning as group editorial director with a place on the board.

Mr Anderson walked out protesting against alleged editorial interference by the new management brought in by Mr Warwick Fairfax, aged 26, for his Aus$2.55 billion (£1.04 billion) buy-back of the family company.

His departure triggered a three-day journalists' strike and a rash of resignations by several other senior editorial executives, including Mr John Alexander, the *Herald* editor. Yesterday Mr Alexander returned in Mr Anderson's old job, replacing Mr Andrew *Clark who stepped down after* a stormy tenure of just one week.

Mr Clark was an appointee of Mr Martin Dougherty, the man Mr Fairfax had brought in as editorial managing director. Mr Dougherty *himself* quit last week after Fairfax journalists passed a vote of no confidence in him.

Mr Anderson, saying that he believed the newspaper's editorial freedom was no longer at issue, called on journalists to return to reporting the news instead of *making it*. Most of the executives who resigned in sympathy with Mr Anderson were believed to be ready to go back to their former jobs.

No comment was immediately forthcoming from Mr Fairfax about the changes on the editorial floor.

But Mr Ron Cotton, managing director of operations, said several important decisions would be made in the next couple of weeks concerning the assets Mr Fairfax needed to sell to reduce the massive debt incurred in his privatization bid.

Mr Cotton made it clear that Fairfax would not sell its respected Melbourne newspaper *The Age* to Mr Maxwell, *who is believed to be eager to* gain a foothold in the Australian market. He said: "I would like to reaffirm yet again we will not be selling anything to Robert Maxwell."

British 'losing out on Russian links'

By Colin Narbrough

It is more than a year since a Soviet decree opened the way for foreign businesses to establish joint ventures with Soviet companies, but British interest remains slight and there is a danger that the United Kingdom could be missing out.

The Government's support for Anglo-Soviet trade has not diminished. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, reaffirmed in Moscow, this week, Mrs Thatcher's pledge to increase bilateral trade 40 per cent by 1990.

Dr John Howell, director of the East European division of Ernst & Whinney, the business services group, considers the overall response to the Soviet proposals on joint ventures has been reasonable, given the remaining doubts about the durability of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's reformist leadership.

By the end of this year, he expects about 50 firms, mainly from West Germany and the United States, to be seriously considering joint ventures with Soviet partners. But only three or four are likely to be British.

This probably reflects the traditional reluctance of British companies to go into Continental Europe, or into the more complicated environment of Eastern Europe. As companies already engaged in business with the Soviet bloc know, a longer-term view is required than that many British *firms are prepared to take.*

The first British company Ernst & Whinney hopes to help tie up a joint venture agreement in the Soviet Union is likely to be an engine maker, whose name cannot yet be disclosed, Dr Howell said.

Mr Richard Branson's announcement that he is taking a directorship on the board of Intourist, the Soviet state travel agency, and is forming a joint venture for an anti-Aids condom programme, is seen as an encouraging, if unorthodox sign of a possible new readiness among Western enterprise to co-operate with the Russians.

Perceiving a growth market for business consultancy services in the Soviet Union, either with Western firms, or the Soviet authorities, Ernst & Whinney have made a comprehensive study of the legal and taxation problems that face any business trying to enter the Soviet market.

While openly acknowledging the considerable difficulties that the Soviet joint venture regulations leave unsolved, Dr Howell believes that the Soviet authorities desire to generate hard currency and technology transfer will keep them flexible enough to accommodate Western demands for rule amendments.

Tokyo call for rise in imports

From Our Correspondent Tokyo

In an "unprecedented" move Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (Miti) yesterday called for increased imports to help less developed countries out of their debt problems.

A Miti spokesman said that in a drastic change of approach, Japan must undertake *broader aid* programmes which should not be confined to short-term financing but encompass direct investment and imports.

Japan imported only 4.8 per cent of the less developed countries' (LDC) manufactures in 1984 while Europe took 17.8 per cent and the US took 38.5 per cent. But between January and November last year, Japanese imports of LDC manufactures increased by 36 per cent. "This is larger than the overall rate of increase in imports."

Calling Japan's $20 billion (£11.41 billion) recycling plan, announced last year, only a first step, he said it was not adequate in itself and Japan must increase efforts to recycle funds: "We have to identify projects worthy of receiving that money and take better measures to cope with risks. We must expand the quantity and quality of overseas development aid."

Status query on Harvard accounts

By Our Financial Staff

Accounts of Harvard Securities Group, due to be sent to shareholders today, will be qualified by its joint auditors, Peat Marwick and Creaseys.

The auditors are likely to point out that the over-the-counter market-making business of the group's main subsidiary, Harvard Securities, can continue under the terms of the Financial Services Act only *if it* gains membership of an approved self-regulatory organization (SRO) or direct authorization.

Harvard failed to gain external membership of the Stock Exchange last summer but plans to apply for membership of the Securities Association as soon as its 1987 accounts are ready.

It has also applied to the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) to obtain authorization for other parts of its business.

Tom Wilmot: not leaving

There has been speculation about the future of Mr Tom Wilmot, the group's chairman and principal shareholder, following abortive talks last summer for a transfer of control to the entrepreneur Mr David Wickins and discuss*ions with a US brokerage firm.*

Last month, Harvard revealed £2.5 million of losses from the stock market crash and substantial staff cuts, following a profit of £714,000 in the year to September.

At the time of the group's quest for authorization, Mr Wilmot said: "Perhaps Harvard without me will have a better chance than with me." But now he says he has no plans to leave and that nobody had suggested Harvard Securities would be more likely to gain authorization without him. He believed his application to the Securities Association would be successful.

Shops face 100% lift in rates

By David Walker

Small shopkeepers at Poole, Bury St Edmunds, Chelmsford, Marlow, Wallingford and a number of other provincial centres face a 100 per cent increase in local authority rates, the National Chamber of Trade has told the Environment Department.

The revaluation of commercial property, which will come *into effect to coincide* with the introduction of poll tax in April 1990, will severely affect some smaller traders.

In a letter to the Environment Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Chamber cited likely increases in rates of more than 300 per cent for a retailer at Epsom, and nearly 150 per cent at Loughborough.

Mr Bernard Tennant, the Chamber's director-general, said: "We do not seek preferential treatment for retailers so much as some accommodation whereby they may meet the excessive rate demands caused by the catch-up of postponed revaluation."

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey	629	Coats	934	Land Sec	1,674	Rowntree	379
Alld-Lyons	1,368	CU	2,478	Laporte	120	Royal Bank	202
Amstrad	3,578	Cons Gold	507	L&G	389	Royal Ins	444
ASDA	1,552	Cookson	77	Lloyds	2,029	Saatchi	561
AB Foods	240	Courtaulds	875	Lonrho	4,710	Sainsbury	842
Argyll	1,865	Dalgety	661	Lucas	451	Scot & N	733
BAA	1,195	Dee	1,407	Magnet	1,018	Sears	1,943
BET	1,332	Dixons	4,120	M&S	2,264	Sedgwick	1,487
BTR	1,267	ECC	369	Maxwell Cm	586	Shell	1,546
BAT	3,667	Enterprise	1,972	MEPC	1,274	Smith & N	783
Barclays	415	Ferranti	7,066	Metal Box	166	STC	1,635
Bass	209	Fisons	1,230	Midland	3,238	Stan Chart	450
Beecham	977	Gen Acc	150	NatWest	962	Storehse	404
Beazer	723	GEC	5,331	Next	319	Sun Allnce	113
BICC	350	Glaxo	725	Nth Food	1,182	T & N	1,138
Blue Arrow	744	Globe	66	P&O	770	Tarmac	2,550
Blue Circle	555	Granada	1,620	Pearl	321	Tate & Lyle	669
BOC	1,001	Grand Met	2,214	Pearson	378	TSB	4,062
Boots	4,772	GUS 'A'	235	Pilkington	668	Tesco	2,879
BPB	582	GRE	280	Plessey	14,890	Thorn EMI	1,069
Br Aero	614	GKN	1,026	Prudential	709	Trafalgar	649
Br Airways	3,113	Guinness	3,099	Racal	4,638	THF	2,226
Br Comm	3,805	Hamm 'A'	54	Rk Hovis	601	Ultramar	1,756
Br Gas	16,465	Hanson	8,528	Rank	530	Unigate	190
Br Petrol	*9,038*	*Hawker*	*584*	*R&C*	*937*	*Unilever*	*1,809*
Br Telecom	4,669	Hawley	1,549	Redland	368	United Bis	756
Britoil	100	Hillsdown	381	Reed	434	Utd News	844
Bunzl	486	IMI	122	Reuters	668	Wellcome	845
Burmah	421	ICI	1,678	RMC Gp	61	Whitbrd	58
Burton	1,519	Jaguar	214	RTZ	2,036	Wilks Fab	985
C&W	2,224	Lasmo	594	R-Royce	3,381	Woolworth	770
Cadbury	1,505	Ladbroke	634	Rothmn 'B'	234	Equities page 27	

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 15	February 26	May 19	May 31

Call options were taken out on: 18/2/88 Polly Peck, North Kalgurli Mines, J Finlay, Kalon, Amalgamated Financial, Pentland, Control Secs., C Baynes, Eagle Trust, Blacks Leisure.

Puts & Calls: Grootvlei, Property Mines.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Ald Restaurants	63 +2
Ass-Henriques 71hp	81
Brit Pet P/P	75 +1
Carron Phoenix (120p)	146
City Grove (100p)	114
Copymore (130p)	143
Eurotunnel	270 +1
Eurotunnel Wrnts	19½
Firstland	56 −2
Fairway London	81 +1
Hard Rock Cafe	116 −3
Do 'A'	81
Hatfield Est (100p)	111
How Group	68
ISA Intl (80p)	106
Inshops (52p)	66
Kunick	34 +2
Mowat	37
Nestor-BNA (75p)	97 −1
Power Corp	106 −2
Record (88p)	63 −1
Sec Archives	192
Shaftsbury (180p)	146
Shorco	111 −1
Sykes-Pickavant	116
TGI (130p)	128 +2
Titon Hldgs (180p)	83 +2
Tomorrows Leisure	30
USDC Inv	110
Waverley Mining	80

RIGHTS ISSUES

Aero Eng N/P	11 −1
Cooper (F) N/P	3½
Crean (J) N/P	90 +5
Gr West 6% N/P	
Howden N/P	23½ +1
Imtec N/P	½
ML Hldgs N/P	5½ −½
Parkway N/P	55
Paringa N/P	13

(Issue price in brackets).

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.00%
Adam & Company	9.00%
BCCI	9.00%
Consolidated Crds	9.00%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	9.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	9.00%
Lloyds Bank	9.00%
Nat Westminster	9.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.00%
TSB	9.00%
Citibank NA	9.00%

WORLD STOCK MARKETS: TOKYO

Big investors fuel 245 rise in Nikkei

(Reuter) — Share prices surged to close higher for the sixth consecutive session yesterday as powerful trust funds and other institutional investors entered the market after being mostly absent this year, brokers said.

The Nikkei index spurted 245.41 points, or 1 per cent, to 24,675.36. On Wednesday it rose 84.29. Advances led declines four to three, in volume of 750 million shares against 700 million on Wednesday.

"It looks like we have entered a phase of currency stability," said Mr Tadaaki Uehara, manager at Wako Securities. Securities house, communications, retail, bank, credit/lease and railway shares rose.

Currency stability is bullish for the stock market because it *removes uncertainty* over exporters' earnings and the direction of speculative money flows, and allows investors to plan ahead, brokers said.

"Some Japanese interest rates are begining to fall. That could pull more money into stocks," said Mr Toranobu Sugai at Shearson Lehman in Tokyo. The coupon on yesterday's auction of 20-year government bonds was 5.3 per cent, down from 5.7 per cent in December, and other rates may also fall, brokers said.

Retail shares continued to rise, reportedly due to expectations of Japanese moves to liberalize food imports, a consumer spending binge, and buying by big brokers.

FRANKFURT

Prices dip across the board

(Reuter) — Prices ended lower across the board in moderate business yesterday, with professional operators continuing to take profits in a technical reaction to recent strong gains.

Shares had started lower but firmed on demand by foreign investors. But they fell again towards the end.

Dealers said that foreigners remained largely on the sidelines. Blue chips, which had gained strongly during the recent rally, led others down. One dealer said: "The technical correction continued today but underlying sentiment remained favourable." He added that shares were likely to rise again next week.

The Commerzbank index of 60 leading shares, calculated at midday, rose by a marginal 0.1 of a point to 1,354.3. There was a lot of activity in insurers.

SYDNEY

Good news maintains confidence

(Reuter) — The market recorded its sixth successive gain as positive news from home and abroad maintained investor confidence.

Brokers said strong results from blue-chip companies, which seem likely to continue, combined with a steady currency and firm bullion prices, favourable balance of trade data, and solid performances on overseas markets gave support across the boards.

By the close the All-Ordinaries was up 9.9 at 1,243.6, but prices were an hour behind due to computer problems. The gold index gained 23.5 to 1,556.5, the All-Resources was up 8.5 to 678.2, and the All-Industrials rose 11.0 to 1,990.9.

Gold stocks were in demand after bullion prices rose US$1.40 overnight to US$446.00 an ounce.

WALL STREET

Opening dip for Dow

(Agencies) — Shares generally showed small changes over a narrow area in slow, early *trading yesterday. Brokers* reported that investors found little in the news to inspire either buying or selling.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 2 points to 1,998.99, while declining shares moderately outnumbered rising ones. IBM was up *by ⅞ to 113 in active dealing.* Firestone slipped ¾ to 41⅞. The company said the agreement to sell 75 per cent of its tyre business will allow it to reach its goal of becoming a retail-oriented concern.

	Feb 17	Feb 16		Feb 17	Feb 16		Feb 17
AMR Cp	36⅜	36⅝	Fedders	7⅛	7½	Pennzoil	68⅝
ASA	47½	46⅞	Firestone	42	45¼	Pepsico	35⅜
Aetna Life	46⅞	47⅛	Fst Chicago	23⅛	23¼	Pfizer	51⅞
Allied Signal	31½	32⅜	Fst Int Bncp	40¼	41¾	Phelps Dod	39⅜
Allis Chlm	1⅝	1⅝	Fst Penn C	9¾	9¾	Philip Mor	89⅝
Alcoa	45⅝	46½	FT Wachva	37⅞	38⅝	Philip Ptrl	14
Amax Inc	18⅜	18⅜	Ford Motor	44⅞	43¾	Polaroid	27
AMR Hess	27⅞	27⅞	GAF Cp	47⅝	47⅝	Primerica	27⅝
Am Brands	45⅝	45¼	GTE Cp	37⅝	38⅝	Proct Gmble	83⅝
Am Cynmd	46⅜	46⅞	Gen Cp	19⅜	19⅝	Pub S E Gr	24¼
Am Ele Pwr	26⅜	26⅝	Gn Dynam	53⅝	52⅜	R Nabisco	49⅝
Amexs	25⅝	25½	Gen Electric	44	43¾	Raytheon	69
Am Family	13⅝	13⅝	Gen Inst	30⅝	29⅞	Rynlds Metl	42⅝
Am Home	74⅝	75⅝	Gen Mills	50⅝	50⅝	Rockwell Int	18⅝
Am Int Grp	57⅞	58¼	Gen Motors	69	68⅞	Royal Dutch	113⅝
Am Stand	67	67⅞	Gen Pub Ut	31	30⅝	SFE Sopac	22⅝
Am Telph	29¼	29⅝	Genesco	4⅝	4½	Sara Lee	40⅞
Amoco Cp	75⅝	75¼	Georgia Pac	35⅞	36⅛	Schlumb	34⅜
Anheuser B	31⅜	31⅛	Gillette	38⅞	39⅝	Scott Pap	70⅝
Armco Steel	10⅜	10⅜	Goodrich	44	43⅞	Seagram	54⅝
Asarco Inc	23⅞	23⅞	Goodyear	58⅝	59⅝	Sears Roeb	36⅜
Ashland Oil	58⅜	58⅜	Gould Inc	10⅞	10⅝	Shell Trans	74⅞
Atl Richfld	78¼	78⅝	Grace Co	26⅝	26⅝	Singer	49⅝
Avon Prod	23⅜	24⅛	Grt Atl Pac	35⅝	36⅝	Smith Beck	56⅝
Bk Boston	24¼	24⅜	Greyhnd	29⅝	29⅞	Sony Cp	37
Bank NY	29⅝	29⅝	Gruman	18⅝	19⅛	Sth Cal Edi	33⅝
Bankamer	8⅝	8½	Gulf & West	75⅝	73⅞	SW Bell	37⅝
Bkrs Tst NY	34½	35¼	Heinz	39⅛	39⅜	Squibb	65⅝
Baxter	23⅝	23⅞	Hercules	47⅞	48½	Sterl Drug	89
Beth Steel	18⅝	18½	Hewlett Pk	57½	58⅝	Stevens JP	46
Boeing	47⅞	48	Honeywell	64⅝	63⅝	Sun Comp	55⅝
Boise Casc	43½	44	IC Ind	34½	34¼	TRW Inc	47⅝
Borden	52¼	52⅝	ITT Cp	46⅝	47½	Teledyne	328⅜
Brstl Meyr	43⅜	44¼	INCO	21⅝	21⅝	Tenneco	39
BP	54¼	54¼	Ing Rand Wl	37⅝	37½	Texaco	39⅝
Brunswick	17⅞	18	Inland Steel	32	31⅞	Tex Eastn	26⅝
Burl Nth	66⅝	65¼	IBM	112¾	113½	Texas Inst	47⅞
CBS	162½	161¾	Int Paper	40⅝	40⅞	Tex Util	30
CMS Engy	16⅝	16⅝	Irving Bk	48	48⅝	Textron	23¼
CPC Int	46⅜	45⅜	Jhns & Jhns	81	82	Travelers	37⅝
CSX Cp	29⅞	30¼	K Mart	33⅜	33⅞	USG	28⅝
Camp Soup	27⅞	27⅝	Kaisertech	10⅝	10⅝	USX Cp	31½
Can Pacific	17⅝	17¼	Kerr McGee	35⅜	35⅝	Unilever Plc	35
Caterpillar	61¼	61⅝	Kimbrly Clrk	51½	52¼	Un Carbide	22⅝
Centrl SW	32⅝	32⅜	Kraft	54⅜	54	Un Pac Cp	57⅝
Champion	33⅝	33⅞	Kroger	29	28⅝	Unisys Cp	34⅝
Chase Man	23⅞	23	LTV Cp	3⅝	3⅞	Utd Brands	46⅝
Chem NY	23⅛	23½	Litton	76½	75⅞	Us West	53⅝
Chevron	46⅝	47	Lockheed	39⅜	39⅞	Utd Tech	38¼
Chrysler	25⅞	26¼	Lucky Str	27¼	27¼	Unocal	32⅜
Citicorp	19⅝	20	Man H'nver	23	22⅞	Warn Lamb	76⅝
Clark Eq	26⅝	24¼	Manville	2⅝	2⅝	Wells Far	49⅝
Coca Cola	37⅝	36⅝	Mapco	48⅝	49	Westg El	50⅜
Colgate	43½	43½	Marriott	29⅝	29½	Weyerhsr	40⅜
Columb Gas	33⅝	33⅜	Mt Marrieta	46⅝	46⅜	Whirlpool	27⅝
Cmb'tn Eng	30⅜	30⅜	Masco	26	26⅝	Woolworth	43½
Cmwlth Edi	28⅝	28	Mcdonalds	45⅝	46⅜	Xerox Cp	56⅞
Cons Edis	44½	45	McDonnell	61⅝	62	Zenith	15⅝
Consol Ng	37¼	37⅞	Mead Cp	36⅜	35⅝		
Cont Data	24¼	24⅞	Merck	159⅝	159¼	CANADIAN PRI	
Corning Gl	56	54⅝	Minsta Mng	59⅝	59⅞		
Crane	25⅝	25⅝	Mobil	44⅝	44⅞	Agnico Eag	17⅝
Curtiss W	52	52	Monsanto	86⅞	86⅞	Alcan Alum	34½
Data Genl	27⅞	27¼	Montedison	8¼	8⅜	Algoma Stl	16.75
Deere Co	39	39⅝	Morgan Jp	35⅞	35⅞	Can Pacific	22
Delta Airl	45¼	45	Motorola	44⅝	44⅞	Cominco	15
Detroit Edi	14	14⅜	NCR	62¼	61⅞	Con Bathrst	17⅝
Digital Eq	120⅜	119⅜	NL Indstrs	6⅜	6⅞	Hawk S Can	18⅝
Disney	58	59	Nat Md Ent	19⅝	19⅞	Hud Bay M	20
Dow Chem	83⅛	83	Nat Semi	10½	10⅝	Imasco	28⅝
Dresser Ind	28⅝	29	Norfolk Sth	27⅝	28⅝	Imperial Oil	59½
Dupont	83⅝	83	NW Bancrp	42¼	43⅜	Int Pipe	45⅝
Duke Pwr	45⅞	46⅜	Occ'tl Petl	27⅜	26⅞	Royl Trstco	15⅝
East Kodak	42½	43	Ogden Cp	29	28⅞	Seagram	89⅝
Eaton Cp	70	69⅞	Olin Cp	46⅝	47½	Shelco 'A'	37⅝
Emerson El	33⅝	33⅝	PPG Ind	37	36⅞	Thmsn N 'A'	27⅝
Emery Air	6⅝	6⅝	Pac Gas El	17⅝	17⅝	Varity Cp	3.30
Exxon	42¼	41½	Pan Am	2⅝	2⅝	WCT	16⅝
Farah Inc	7⅝	7⅝	Penney JC	45⅝	45½	Weston	30⅝

مكبرا من الاصل

هكذا عن الاصل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Small losses

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 8. Dealings end today. §Contango day February 22. Settlement day February 29.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 25)

Portfolio
—PLUS NEW—
Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or betters this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Staveley	Industrials S-Z	
2	Cambridge Elec	Electricals	
3	Turriff	Building,Roads	
4	Berkeley Gp	Building,Roads	
5	Wilson Bowden	Building,Roads	
6	Conder Grp	Building,Roads	
7	MBS	Electricals	
8	Baggeridge Brick	Building,Roads	
9	RHM (aa)	Foods	
10	Manganese Bronze	Industrials L-R	
11	SPP	Industrials S-Z	
12	Slough Estates	Property	
13	BSG	Industrials A-D	
14	Crosby James	Building,Roads	
15	Blick	Electricals	
16	Centreway Ind	Industrials A-D	
17	Brent Walker	Leisure	
18	APV	Industrials A-D	
19	Lancaster	Motors,Aircraft	
20	Hanimex	Industrials E-K	
21	Helical Bar	Property	
22	Lookers	Motors,Aircraft	
23	Expamet	Industrials E-K	
24	Adscene	Newspapers,Pub	
25	Banks (Sidney C)	Foods	
26	Ford Motor	Motors,Aircraft	
27	Bejam	Foods	
28	BTP	Chemicals,Plas	
29	Lopex	Paper,Print,Adv	
30	Burgess	Industrials A-D	
31	Portsmouth Sund	Newspapers,Pub	
32	Illingworth	Textiles	
33	Pentland Ind	Industrials L-R	
34	Lec Refrigeration	Electricals	
35	Allied Lon	Property	
36	Irish Distl	Breweries	
37	Scapa	Industrials S-Z	
38	Country & New	Property	
39	Evered	Industrials E-K	
40	Bellwinch	Building,Roads	
41	Wilkes (James)	Industrials S-Z	
42	Forward Tech	Electricals	
43	Weir	Industrials S-Z	
44	Sandell Perkins	Building,Roads	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Portfolio
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DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
Claims required for 30 points
ACCUMULATOR £60,000
Claims better than 30 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

[illegible]

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

[illegible]

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

[illegible]

DATED

[illegible]

INDEX-LINKED

[illegible]

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987/88 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]								
219	113	Rothschild (J) Hld	148	154	..	8.2	5.4	8.0
449	273	Ryl Bk Scot (aa)	333	337	+1	17.4	5.2	6.5
[illegible]	705	Schroders	850	850	..	22.8	2.5	14.0
843	388	Stand Chart (aa)	495	505	-8	48.0	9.8	6.2
154	97	TSB (aa)	107	109	-1	5.3	4.9	7.2
[illegible]	680	Union	800	820	● ..	58.9	7.3	9.4
576	283	Warburg SG	313	317	..	14.4	4.6	..
198	102	Do 6% 'A'	118	121	..	8.2	6.8	..
[illegible]	21	Wells Fargo	[illegible]	..	[illegible]	..	..	..
550	290	Wintrust	430	455	..	8.8	2.0	17.4

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
471	290	Allied-Lyons (aa)	335	338	●-5	16.2	4.8	10.0
[illegible]	746½	Bass (aa)	782	790	●-5	26.8	3.4	11.8
77	35	Belhaven	42	45	+1	1.3	3.0	15.8
233	124	Boddington	143	147	..	5.1	3.5	15.8
788	537	Brown (Matthew)	700	750	..	19.2b	2.6	25.3
248	131	Buckleys	178	188	●-1	4.4	2.4	56.5
239	139	Bulmer (H P)	152	180	● ..	8.2	5.3	11.1
195	120	Burtonwood Brew	140	148	● ..	4.0	2.8	23.3
535	332	Clark (Matthew)	380	390	-2	13.7	3.6	12.9
361	202	Devenish (JA)	310	315	● ..	4.1	1.3	27.8
279½	150	Greenall Whitley	188	195	+7	8.2	4.3	10.9
494	259	Greene King	485	493	..	9.3	1.9	25.1
390	225	Guinness (aa)	273	277	-1	12.6	4.6	9.8
795	473	Hardys & Hansons	655	875	● ..	29.5	4.4	12.4
97	68	Highland Distl	85	89	..	3.4	3.9	13.6
223	138	Invergordon Distl	205	210	..	7.5	3.6	13.5
248	145	Irish Distl	202	212	●+2	6.0	2.9	..
154	110	Marston Thompson	114	116	..	3.6	3.1	14.5
603	345	Morland	455	480	+2	10.8	2.3	18.7
470	131	SA Breweries	315	340	..			
270	178	Scot & New (aa)	233	235	..	11.3	4.8	13.0
599	465	Vaux Grp	508	515	-2	18.5	3.6	15.8
385	251	Whitbread 'A' (aa)	273	275	-2	12.6	4.6	11.6
400	248	Do 'B'	300	320	..	12.6	4.1	13.1
374	210	Whitbread Inv	278	288	..	11.8	4.1	32.9
424	277½	Wolverhampton & D	372	375	●+2	8.0	2.1	15.9
477	274	Young 'A'	350	370	-5	12.3	3.4	21.0

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
360	129	Abbey	190	215	● ..			9.1
449	252	Amec	335	340	-3	18.8	5.0	12.7
510	205	Anglia Sec	400	425	-7	2.7	0.7	24.3
438	28	Anglo Utd	44	46	..	1.4	3.1	83.3
155	68	Arncliffe	102	122	●-3	4.3	3.8	6.6
402	184	Attwoods	285	290	-2	8.2	2.8	18.4
442½	218	BPB Ind (aa)	255	260	-6	9.8	3.7	11.2
310	97	Baggeridge Brick	257	267	+2	4.5	1.7	18.5
94	31	Bailey (Ben) Constr	71	74	..	1.6	2.2	15.1
252	134	Barratt Devs	173	177	-5	12.2	7.0	11.5
327	180	Bellway	222	227	..	11.0	4.9	10.8
186	78	Bellwinch	93	98	+3	4.4	4.6	8.8
530	178	Berkeley Gp	265	272	+3	3.8	1.3	15.8
148	65	Best Bros	88	98	● ..	4.8	5.2	23.1
675	137	Blockleys	325	375	-5	7.4	2.1	29.2
574	289	Blue Circle (aa)	412	415	-7	18.5	4.5	11.1
248	120	Breedon PLC	180	190	..	8.2	4.4	..
253	86	Br Dredging	122	130	-2	6.9	5.5	22.9
81	14½	Brown & Jackson	40½	42	..			
148	79	Bryant	131	133	..	3.8	2.9	15.6
38½	11	Burnett & Hallam	13	14½	..	..	..	1.5
204	100	CRH	110	115	..			
177	80	Cakebread Robey	108	118	..	5.2	4.8	14.1
373	178	Caradon	292	298	+3	10.3n	3.5	17.2
183	86	Church Charles	102	105	+1	1.4	1.3	11.3
278	150	Conder Grp	227	237	+2	6.2	2.7	26.2
395	110	Copson PLC	128	138	-2	2.4	1.8	72.7
387	198	Costain	270	275	-2	12.2	4.5	9.9
402	120	Countryside	238	245	..	2.6	1.1	11.9
282	138	Crest Nicholson	200	205	..	7.8	3.8	10.1
118	83	Crosby James	75	80	+2	2.4	3.1	..
284	129	Douglas (RM)	280	285	● ..	4.3b	1.5	22.2
136½	75	Erith	92	97	..	3.4	3.6	19.5
310	118	Federated Hsg	217	220	+3	8.0	2.7	15.3
182	75	Finlan Gp	73	79	r ..	6.2b	8.2	11.4
90	48	Galliford	65	67	..	3.7	5.6	14.8
232	135	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	225	235	-2	3.4b	1.5	40.6
593	348	Gleeson (MJ)	470	480	..	9.1	1.9	11.5
336	182	Hamson Ind	217	227	● ..	8.2	3.7	13.7
373	171	Henderson	352	355	+13	11.8	3.3	32.6
151	74	Hewden-Stuart	117	119	-1	2.7	2.3	17.9
385	203	Heywood Williams	277	283	..	13.0	4.6	15.7
438	234	Higgs & Hill	307	315	..	10.6	3.4	14.9
85½	41	Howard Hldgs	60	63	●+1	1.9	3.1	11.3
245	92½	Ibstock Johnsen	165	168	-1	8.0	4.8	17.3
136	63	Jarvis (J) & Sons	110	117	..	2.4	2.1	..
400	170	Laing (J)	278	282	+1	8.2	2.9	9.4
414	217	Do 'A'	278	282	+1	8.2	2.9	9.4
194	79	Lawrence (Walter)	131	134	-4	5.8	4.4	13.0
77½	34	Lilley (FJC)	39	40	..	..	..	5.1
314	192	Lovell (YJ)	222	225	●+1	6.9	3.1	11.1
406	149	Magnet (aa)	235	238	●-2	8.6	3.6	15.1
413	293	Manders	353	360	+1	14.3	4.0	19.0
195	113	Marley	142	145	-1	6.0	4.2	16.9
368	188	Marshalls (Halifax)	237	242	..	8.9	3.7	16.4
114	64	Maunders (J)	88	91	+2½	2.6	2.9	14.6
677	365	McAlpine (Alfred)	495	500	-1	20.4	4.1	11.5
520	303	McCarthy & S	468	475	●-3	5.6	1.2	14.2
485	268	Meyer Intl	370	373	+5	9.9	2.7	12.2
171	38	Miller (Stanley)	78	83	+1	1.7	2.1	58.6
541	305½	Mowlem (John)	375	380	● ..	22.3	5.9	11.2
[illegible]	795	Newarthill	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	17.1	1.3	27.0
248½	155	Newman Tonks	180	183	●+3	10.6	5.8	13.7
165	83	Persimmon	136	140	..	2.5	1.8	19.9
158	80	Phoenix Timber	88	92	..	3.4	3.8	10.7
820	378	Pochins	720	750	..	21.9	3.0	8.1
574	341	RMC Gp (aa)	428	430	-1	13.4	3.1	14.1
187	60	Raine Ind	88	90	-2	1.9	2.1	18.1
575	352	Redland (aa)	393	397	-4	18.7	4.7	11.1
206	97	Ruberoid	140	143	..	4.9	3.5	12.5
296	173	Rugby Group	232	235	-1	10.5	4.5	15.4
316	175	Sandell Perkins	233	243	+3	6.3	2.6	15.6
250	136	Sharpe & Fisher	192	202	-1	4.5	2.3	19.5
138	88	Smart (J)	117	127	..	7.2	5.9	18.2
418	237	Steetley	310	315	-2	11.3	3.6	14.8
348	190	Tarmac (aa)	225	228	-3	8.7	3.8	14.3
548	267	Taylor Woodrow	370	373	-3	13.4	3.6	12.2
407	197	Tilbury Group	315	325	+23	9.9	3.1	15.4
423	240	Travis & Arnold	317	323	..	7.4	2.3	15.8
233	90	Trent	138	146	●-2	1.6	1.1	20.8
413	205	Turriff	272	280	+3	13.6	4.9	22.8
815	275	Vibroplant	595	620	● ..	17.1	2.8	20.3
208	99	Ward Group	148	158	+3	3.4	2.2	17.2
227	77	Ward Hldgs	162	170	..	3.3	2.0	10.4
177	68	Warrington	107	117	..			12.8
368	208	Watts Blake	270	278	..	7.8	2.8	15.3
308	162	Westbury	232	235	+7	6.8	2.9	12.8
315	101	Wiggins	165	172	● ..	7.1	4.2	13.4
200	131	Wilson Bowden	177	180	+4	4.7	2.6	..
445	242	Wilson (Connolly)	320	323	+3	4.1	1.3	16.8
288	163	Wimpey (George)	242	245	●+1	7.8	3.2	14.0
189	82	YRM	110	118	●-8	3.3	2.9	12.1

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
173	94	Allied Colloids	124	127	●-1	2.8	2.2	17.4
648	383	Amersham	477	480	-3	11.8	2.5	19.5
255	100	BTP	133	143	r+3	7.9	5.7	14.8
[illegible]	[illegible]	Bayer DM50	[illegible]		[illegible]	700	8.2	..
258	129	Blagden	163	168	..	10.1	6.1	16.7
231	106	Brent Chems	126	130	..	6.4b	5.0	13.0
313	135	Canning (W)	197	201	-2	5.6	2.8	18.7
445	273	Coalite	318	323	●+2½	12.3	3.8	10.3
463	213	Coates Bros	350	356	..	10.6	3.0	18.0
417	177	Do 'A'	330	335	..	10.6	3.2	17.0
48	19	Cory (Horace)	20	22	..	1.0	4.8	25.0
273	165	Croda	186	189	..	11.5	6.1	15.4
263	154	Do Dfd	180	182	●-1	..	..	14.8
243	144	Ellis & Everard	166	170	● ..	6.7	4.0	13.1
223	114	Evode	148	153	..	6.1	4.0	12.3
323	156	Foseco-Minsep	215	219	-2	13.4	6.2	14.0
308	156	Halstead (James)	230	236	-2	8.9	3.8	10.4
230	106	Hickson	158	165	..	5.7	3.5	18.7
116	[illegible]	Hoechst DM50	[illegible]		[illegible]			
[illegible]	940	Imp Chem Ind (aa)	[illegible]	[illegible]	..	52.1	4.9	11.1
587	332	Laporte (aa)	386	390	-1	14.9	3.8	12.9
240	111	Leigh	193	200	-2	6.3	3.2	27.3
[illegible]	11	Norsk Hydro	[illegible]		..	0.3	..	..
220	120	Plysu	150	155	-3	2.7	1.8	18.9
300	102	Reabrook Hldgs	270	320	..	5.8	2.0	26.3
252½	140	Rentokil	192	195	-1	4.1	2.1	20.1
480	52	Sequa	225	235	-5			
198	54	Sutcliffe Speakman	145	152	-2	.. e	..	25.6
405	258	Wolstenholme Rink	260	280	..	14.0	5.2	9.8
351	163	Yorkshire Chem	238	244	-7	7.5	3.1	15.0
200	[illegible]	Yule Catto	105	115	-3	4.1	3.7	15.8

CINEMAS, TV

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
549	248	Anglia TV 'A'	413	427	..	19.9	4.7	9.3
685	370	Central TV	550	560	-3	24.7	4.5	14.0
132½	39	Grampian	46	50	..	3.2	6.7	8.2
382	263	HTV Group	245	255	..	13.4	5.4	7.3
216	88	LWT Hldgs	142	150	..	6.0	4.1	9.3
610	288	Scot TV	403	415	..	21.2	5.2	8.2
454	208	TVS	348	360	..	17.1	4.8	9.5
101	45	TSW	70	73	+1	3.7	5.1	11.1
540	260	Thames TV	328	338	-1	17.0	5.1	10.0
202	105	TV-AM	147	150	..	4.4	3.0	..
639	254	Tyne Tees TV	555	565	-1	30.8	5.5	10.9
170	74	Ulster TV	80	85	..	5.1	6.1	8.9
403	150	Yorkshire TV	218	227	-1	11.0	4.9	8.9

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
463	205	Alexon	345	355	-2	8.9	2.5	15.4
136	[illegible]	Amber Day	37	40	-1			
164	55	Aquascutum 'A'	77	80	..	3.7	4.7	19.8
213½	87	Ashley (Laura)	114	118	-2	3.2	2.8	17.5
238	94	Beattie (James) 'A'	125	130	-1	4.7	3.7	13.7
206	135	Bentalls	180	195	..	3.7	1.9	35.6
25	[illegible]	Blacks Leis	22	22½	..			
940	368	Body Shop	918	940	●+10	4.1	0.4	49.2
134	66	Bremner	78	83	..	1.0	1.2	60.4
447	204	Brown (N)	338	348	-5	5.7	1.7	..
358	211	Burton (aa)	224	227	-6	9.9	4.4	11.3
138	63	Cantors 'A'	83	88	● ..	2.4	2.8	17.4
195	63	Casket plc	77	87	..	3.6	4.4	9.7
630	430	Church	430	450	-10	13.7	3.1	15.9
424	210	Coats Viyella (aa)	235	238	-2	10.6	4.5	11.1
288	138	Courts (Furn) 'A'	175	185	..	7.1	3.9	17.2
655	350	DAKS Simpson 'A'	420	470	+20	11.8	2.7	9.4
93	51	Dewhirst (IJ)	48	52	..	1.4	2.7	11.2
436	179	Dixons Grp (aa)	189	191	●+3	5.8	3.9	9.9
283	133	Dunhill	155	163	..	2.8	1.8	4.2
191	37	ERA Gp	67	72	..	2.1	3.0	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	Ellis & Goldstein	59	60	[illegible]	3.6	6.1	7.6
785	560	Elys (Wimbledon)	570	620	-30	14.4	2.4	23.2
256	180	Empire Stores	235	240	..	6.7	2.8	16.5
345	201	Etam	257	262	..	6.8	2.6	18.1
331	183	Fine Art Dev	237	240	-4	8.0	3.3	8.7
340	207	Forminster	265	285	..	10.2	3.7	18.5
130	50	Gent SR	52	57	..	1.4	2.5	17.3
218	131	Goldberg (A)	180	183	●+1	6.7	3.7	17.3
[illegible]								

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]								
242	55	Arlen	130	140	●	3.4b	2.5	12.2
890	288	Atlantic Comp	390	405	+5	6.9	1.7	11.5
183	65	Audio Fidelity	101	108	●-2	0.7	0.7	8.2
338	174	Auto Sec	240	245	-1	2.7	1.1	18.0
66	45	Beacon Gp	42	47	-1			
82	[illegible]	Bennett & Fountain	32	35	-3	1.0	2.9	17.3
436	259	BICC (aa)	320	325	-5	16.8	5.2	17.0
148	66	BSR	83	86	..	3.8	4.5	15.3
244	120	Bics	170	177	+3	5.8	3.3	12.6
291	85	Borland	98	105				
264	145	Bowthorpe	171	175	-4	4.4b	2.5	15.0
274	123	Britannia Security	192	200	-1	2.5	1.3	16.1
337	203	Br Telecom (aa)	239	241	●-1	12.1	5.0	11.5
155	83	Brown Boveri Kent	103	108	..	5.1	4.8	10.9
48	15	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	17	20	..	0.1	0.5	32.2
308	172½	CAP Group	201	207	●-1	2.6	1.3	19.6
148	46	CASE	53	57	..	0.1	0.2	4.6
515	268	Cable Wireless (aa)	343	348	●+2	8.0	2.3	17.3
328	119	Cambridge Elec	197	200	+4	11.2	5.6	12.7
136	43	Cambridge Instr	41	46	-3	1.0	2.3	4.8
117	45	Chloride	55	58		2.5	4.6	15.6
227	140	Cray Elect	210	220	●-4	3.7	1.7	13.0
301	138	Crystalate	158	162	-1	8.0	5.0	7.7
185	45	DDT Group	63	73	-2	1.5	2.4	12.1
142	59	Dale Elec	97	100	-1	5.1	5.1	20.7
65	34	Dewhurst	45	50	● ..	1.9	4.0	10.9
64	30	Do 'A'	42	47	● ..	1.9	4.2	10.2
585	247	Domino	295	310	-2	3.8	1.3	15.1
78	45	Dowding & Mills	56	58		2.4	4.1	14.3
245	117	Dubilier	128	135	●+1	5.5	4.2	12.4
264	157	Electrocomponents	185	188	● ..	5.3	2.8	14.7
176	75	Elec Data Process	98	101		2.9	2.9	8.3
270	55	Electronic Mach	70	80	-3	1.2	1.6	91.5
99	48	Electronic Rentals	96	100		4.4	4.5	38.3
510	289	Emess	395	405	r-1	11.0	2.8	22.2
505	241	Eurotherm	318	327	●+6	8.2	2.5	17.4
213	69	FKI Babcock	129	130	●-2	2.2	1.7	17.6
278	136	Farnell Elect	153	158	..	4.1	2.6	14.1
155	67	Ferranti (aa)	77	78	●-1½	2.8	3.6	10.8
118	40	Forward Tech	54	59	+4	1.0	1.8	10.8
251	148	GEC (aa)	150	153	● ..	7.7	5.1	9.7
306	173	Harland Simon	188	195	-3	2.6	1.4	..
104	56	Highland Elect	60	63	..	3.4	5.5	9.2
340	146	Hoskyns Gp	230	240	● ..	2.9	1.2	20.8
123	45	ITL Gp	42	47	..	2.7	6.0	..
233	122½	Jones Stroud	185	205	..	7.2	3.7	12.8
483	250	Kode	327	337	-3	19.2	5.8	14.1
380	245	Lec Refrigeration	310	320	+5	17.1	5.4	15.0
427	210	Logica	278	285	..	2.3	0.8	19.7
711	349	MK Elect	675	700	..	16.4	2.4	21.3
369	203	Macro 4	265	280	+9	3.8	1.4	24.5
336	173	Memec	190	198	-4	4.8	2.5	20.1
172	71	MBS	82	87	+3	0.7e	0.8	78.0
492	258	Microfilm Repro	355	370		3.1	0.9	35.9
207	85	Micro Focus	115	125	-5			
441	191	Microgen	270	280	●-2	7.5	2.7	16.6
406	120	Mitel	140	145	-7			
[illegible]	[illegible]	Molex	[illegible]	[illegible]				
108	43	[illegible] Elect	58	63	-2	2.1e	3.4	45.9
69	40	Murray Elect	39	42	-1	0.3	0.7	
408	238	Newmark (Louis)	290	305	● ..	19.6	6.6	14.3
129	[illegible]	NEI	[illegible]	94	..	7.2b	7.7	19.4
265	71	NMW Comp	82	92	-1	4.3	4.9	12.7
47	16	Oceonics	18	21	● ..			4.0
454	147	Oxford Instruments	233	240	●-2	3.4	1.4	8.6
321	185	P-E International	150	160		4.4	2.6	17.2
[illegible]	[illegible]	Peek	48	53	-4			
101	[illegible]	Plescon	44	47	-2	0.8	1.7	22.8
136	11	Philips Fin 5⅜%	75	80		575	7.4	
[illegible]	[illegible]	Philips Lamps N/V	[illegible]					
277	224	Pilco	250	260		8.9	3.5	10.2
220	159	Do 'A' Ltd Vtng	182	189	+2	8.9	4.5	7.5
258	127	Plessey (aa)	151	153	●+5½	7.9	5.2	9.5
177	83	Pressac	127	132	+2	2.1	1.6	13.1
195	72	Quest Automation	100	[illegible]	● ..	1.4	1.4	7.0
348	184	Racal Elect (aa)	204	205	●-4½	4.9	2.4	17.3
265	143	Ross	140	150	● ..	1.6	1.1	15.1
227	87	Scantronic	125	130	+2	1.4	1.1	27.8
630	328	Scholes (GH)	440	460		19.2	4.3	14.8
83	28	Sound Diffusion	28	31		0.8	2.7	7.8
331	160	STC (aa)	233	235	+2	7.2	3.1	13.7
104	47	System Designers	58	62	-2	0.8	1.3	21.2
[illegible]	[illegible]	TDK	[illegible]		[illegible]			
326	159	Telephone Rentals	195	200	-2	11.0	5.6	16.0
78	25	Telemetrix	29	30				1.7
355	143	[illegible] Scientific	136	150	-3	4.7	3.3	9.9
826	432	THORN EMI (aa)	557	562	+5	26.7	4.8	13.2
480	305	Tunstall	400	420		4.5	1.1	19.1
539	275	UEI	345	358		8.4	2.4	19.5
338	170	Unitech	194	198	● ..	11.2	5.7	10.7
358	140	Utd Scientific	202	210	●+8	9.0	4.4	11.6
578	345	VG Instruments	385	400	-1	5.3	1.3	16.0
481	227	Volex	320	340	-3	14.7	4.5	11.6
199	75	Western Selection	97	107	● ..	4.7	4.6	10.2
500	295	Wholesale Fitting	462	472	+37	14.4	3.1	18.5

FINANCE, LAND

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

FOODS

[illegible]

HOTELS, CATERERS

[illegible]

INDUSTRIALS A-D

[illegible]

E - K

[illegible]

L - R

[illegible]

S - Z

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

Investment Trusts appear on Page 28

LEISURE

[illegible]

MINING

[illegible]

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

[illegible]

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

[illegible]

OILS, GAS

[illegible]

OVERSEAS TRADERS

[illegible]

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

[illegible]

PROPERTY

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

SHOES, LEATHER

[illegible]

TEXTILES

[illegible]

TOBACCOS

[illegible]

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

UNLISTED SECURITIES

THIRD MARKET

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was same at 74.3 (day's range 74.2-74.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates for February 18

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.7440-1.7520	1.7440-1.7450	0.28-0.25pr	1.03-0.98pr
Montrl	2.2105-2.2247	2.2105-2.2135	0.10p-0.10ds	0.44-0.21pr
Amstrdm	3.3422-3.3509	3.3467-3.3504	1⅛-⅞pr	4⅛-3⅞pr
Brussels	62.23-62.44	62.25-62.40	22-4pr	58-37pr
Copnhgn	11.3806-11.4136	11.3983-11.4136	par-⅛ds	1⅝-⅛ds
Dublin	1.1192-1.1217	1.1204-1.1214	7-5pr	25-16pr
Frankft	2.9777-2.9852	2.9817-2.9852	1⅛-1pr	4⅛-3⅞pr
Lisbon	243.08-244.93	243.08-244.09	95-180ds	230-365ds
Madrid	200.49-201.31	200.59-201.05	40-60ds	100-145ds
Milan	2192.87-2199.14	2196.13-2199.14	par-5ds	par-11ds
Oslo	11.2134-11.2531	11.2134-11.2285	4⅞-5ds	13-14⅛ds
Paris	10.0624-10.0828	10.0718-10.0817	1⅛-⅞pr	4-2⅝pr
Stckhlm	10.5898-10.6209	10.6096-10.6209	⅝-1⅛ds	⅛-1⅛ds
Tokyo	226.72-227.57	226.72-227.02	1⅛-⅞pr	3⅞-2⅞pr
Vienna	20.85-20.94	20.87-20.90	8½-7⅜pr	27⅛-24⅜pr
Zurich	2.4503-2.4554	2.4503-2.4535	1⅜-1⅛pr	4⅜-4⅛pr

Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	10.0157-10.1062
Australia dollar	2.4462-2.4494
Bahrain dinar	0.6575-0.6615
Brazil cruzado*	160.633-161.335
Cyprus pound	0.7950-0.8066
Finland marka	7.21-7.25
Greece drachma	237.0-239.0
Hong Kong dollar	13.6330-13.6348
India rupee	22.75-22.95
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4820-0.4860
Malaysia dollar	4.5279-4.5333
Mexico peso	[illegible]
New Zealand dollar	2.6511-2.6536
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.5375-6.5775
Singapore dollar	3.5252-3.5391
S Africa rand (fin)	4.9318-5.0057
S Africa rand (com)	3.5215-3.6311
U A E dirham	6.4050-6.4450

*Lloyds Bank. Rates supplied by Extel and Barclays Bank HOFEX

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5630-1.5645	Denmark	6.5075-6.5125	Italy	1253.3-1254.3
Singapore	2.0150-2.0200	W Germany	1.7025-1.7035	Belgium (Com)	35.61-35.64
Malaysia	2.5825-2.5875	Switzerland	1.4002-1.4012	Hong Kong	7.7850-7.7900
Australia	1.3966-1.3976	Netherlands	1.9111-1.9121	Portugal	139.20-139.70
Canada	1.2685-1.2695	France	5.7540-5.7570	Spain	114.60-114.70
Sweden	6.0535-6.0585	Japan	129.65-129.75	Austria	11.94-11.96
Norway	6.4230-6.4280				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX and Extel.

MONEY MARKETS

Base Rates %: Clearing Banks 9 Finance Hse 9

Discount Market Loans %
Overnight High: 8⅞ Low 8 Week fixed: 8⅛

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying: 2 mth – 8⅝ 3 mth – 8¹⁵⁄₁₆
Selling: 2 mth – 8⅝ 3 mth – 8¹³⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 mth: 8⁹⁄₁₆-8½ 2 mth: 8²⁹⁄₃₂-8²⁷⁄₃₂ 3 mth: 8³¹⁄₃₂-8²⁹⁄₃₂
6 mth 9³⁄₁₆-9¹⁄₁₆

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 mth: 9³⁄₁₆ 2 mth: 9⁵⁄₁₆ 3 mth: 9⅜
6 mth 9⅝

Interbank (%). Overnight: open 8⅞ close 8⅞
1 week: 8½-8⅜ 1 mth: 8⅝-8¹¹⁄₁₆ 3 mth: 9⁵⁄₁₆-9⅛
6 mth: 9½-9⁷⁄₁₆ 9 mth: 9⅝-9⁹⁄₁₆ 12 mth: 9¾-9⅝

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 day: 7⅞ 7 day: 7⅞ 1 mth: 8
3 mth: 8⅞ 6 mth: 9⅜ 12 mth: 9⅝

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 mth: 9-8⅞ 2 mth: 9⅛-9 3 mth: 9½-9⅜
6 mth: 9⅝-9½ 9 mth: 9⅞-9½ 12 mth: 9¹³⁄₁₆-9⁹⁄₁₆

Sterling CDs (%)
1 mth: 8¹¹⁄₁₆-8¹⁹⁄₃₂ 3 mth: 9⅛-9⅛ 6 mth: 9⅜-9⅜
12 mth: 9⁹⁄₁₆-9⁷⁄₁₆

Dollar CDs (%)
1 mth: 6.75-6.70 3 mth: 6.75-6.70 6 mth: 6.90-6.85
12 mth: 7.20-7.15

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth
Dollar: Call: 6⅝-5⅞	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark: Call: 3⅛-2⅞	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc: Call: 7⅝-6⅞	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8⅜-8⅛
Swiss Franc: Call: 1⅞-⅞	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2⅝-2⅛
Yen: Call: 3⅝-2⅞	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: January 29, 1988. Agreed rates February 24, 1988 to March 25, 1988. Scheme I: 10.11 per cent. Schemes II & III: 10.22 per cent. Reference rate January 1, 1988 to January 29, 1988. Scheme IV: 8.973 per cent.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling			Previous open interest 38238		
Mar 88	90.50	90.53	90.38	90.53	8230
Jun 88	90.38	90.39	90.29	90.39	2410
Sep 88	90.22	90.26	90.19	90.27	547
Dec 88	90.10	90.15	90.06	90.15	141
Mar 89	89.97	90.02	89.97	90.02	28
Jun 89	NT	...	.....	89.90	0
Three Month Eurodollar			Previous open interest 32137		
Mar 88	92.98	92.98	92.94	92.97	3424
Jun 88	92.82	92.83	92.77	92.80	2634
Sep 88	92.56	92.57	92.49	92.54	252
Dec 88	92.27	92.28	92.22	92.25	95
Mar 89	NT	...	—	92.00	0
Jun 89	91.82	91.82	91.79	91.78	25

	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
US Treasury Bond			Previous open interest 10215		
Mar 88	93-00	93-04	92-17	93-04	6802
Jun 88	92-00	92-00	91-14	92-02	2
Long Gilt			Previous open interest 26384		
Mar 88	119-02	119-28	118-25	119-27	36733
Jun 88	119-06	119-24	118-27	119-29	923
Sep 88	NT	..			
FT-SE 100			Previous open interest 9060		
Mar 88	173.80	174.50	172.00	172.10	1070
Jun 88	176.00	176.05	174.30	174.35	109
Japanese Govt Bond			Previous open interest 748		
Mar 88	108.30	108.39	108.00	108.19	363
Jun 88	107.40	107.60	107.35	107.49	298

GOLD

BULLION:
Open: $445.00-445.50 Close: $444.00-444.50
High: $448.00-448.50 Low: $444.00-444.50

COINS: Per coin (*Ex VAT)
Britannia: $457.00-462.00 (£261.00-264.00)
Krugerrand*: $443.00-446.00 (£253.00-255.00)
Mapleleaf (/1oz): $457.00-462.00 (£261.00-264.00)
American Eagles: $457.00-462.00 (£261.00-264.00)
New Sovereigns*: $104.50-105.50 (£59.75-60.50)
Old Sovereigns*: $104.50-106.00 (£59.75-60.75)
Platinum: $468.75 (£267.70)
Palladium: $121.00 (£69.10)
Silver: $6.42-6.44 (£3.665-3.680)

COMMODITIES

ICIS-LOR Group

A weakening Merc and deepseated fundamentalist bearishness pushed April Brent below $16.00. The Crude market remains well-supplied and poor refiner's margins limit buying interest. Lower futures numbers attracted interest mainly on Gasoil and Fuel Oil.

CRUDE OILS/assessed ($/BBL FOB)

Brent Phys	15.45	-30
15 day Mar	15.65	-35
15 day Apr	15.85	-30
WTI Mar	16.45	-35
WTI Apr	16.40	-40

PRODUCTS Buy/sell $/MT.
Spot CIF NW Euro - prompt delivery

Prem Gas 15		165-166	
Gasoil EEC	-3	135-136	-4
Non 2H Feb	-3	132-133	-3
Non 1H Mar	-3	132-133	-3
3.5 Fuel Oil	-1	70-71	-2
Naphtha		150-152	

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

Apr 88 Hi 1588-1565 Low Close 1569.0
Jul 88 Hi 1425-1410 Low Close 1408.0
Oct 88 Hi 1430-1418 Low Close 1419.0
Jan 89 Hi 1399-1399 Low Close 1385.0
Vol 260 lots Open interest 2675
Dry cargo index 1566.0 +4.5 on 17/2/88

GAS OIL G W Joynson

Mar	132.75-32.50
Apr	132.75-32.50
May	132.75-32.50
Jun	134.75-34.50
Jul	136.00-35.00
Aug	136.00-34.00
Sep	137.00-34.00
Oct	137.00-34.50
Nov	137.00-34.50
Vol	1286

HVY FUEL OIL Reuter

Mar	unq
Apr	
Vol	0

LONDON POTATO FUTURES (£/tonne)

Mth	Open	Close
Apr	142.00	141.70
May	156.50	156.90
Nov	92.00	93.50
Feb	104.00	102.00
		Vol 884

LONDON FOX

COCOA G W Joynson
Mar 1040-039 Dec 1134-132
May 1063-062 Mar 1162-158
Jul 1085-084 May 1181-178
Sep 1105-104 Vol 6064

COFFEE G W Joynson
Mar 1272-270 Nov 1359-355
May 1299-298 Jan 1384-375
Jul 1321-318 Mar 1410-390
Sep 1337-336 Vol 4326

SUGAR C Czarnikow
FOB Vol: 2509
Mar 195.4-95.2 Oct 188.4-88.0
May 195.4-95.2 Dec 188.0-87.0
Aug 190.8-90.6 Mar 189.0-88.8

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT close (£/t) Vol 450
Mr 104.65 My 107.60 Jl 110.15
Sp 101.60 Nv 107.70 Ja 105.75

BARLEY close (£/t) Vol 89
Mr 104.00 My 106.30 Sp 97.75
Nv 100.20 Ja 102.30 Mr 104.65

SOYABEAN
Apr 130.0-29.5 Oct 126.0-24.5
Jun 125.5-25.0 Dec 129.0-27.0
Aug 124.2-23.8 Feb 131.5-28.0
Vol 466

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official prices/volume previous day Rudolf Wolf

(£/tonne)	Cash	3 month	Vol	Tone
Copper Gde A	1415.0-1418.0	1298.0-1299.0	255875	Firmer
Copper Stand	1365.0-1380.0	1270.0-1280.0	Nil	Quiet
Lead	371.00-373.00	340.50-341.00	29850	Steady
Zinc Hi Gde	502.75-503.00	506.50-507.00	38425	Steady
Silver Large†	638.00-641.00	648.00-650.00	10	Quiet
Silver Small†	638.00-641.00	648.00-650.00	Nil	Quiet
Aluminium	1262.0-1264.0	1179.0-1180.0	145400	Firmer
Aluminium Hi*	2245.0-2255.0	2095.0-2105.0	23650	Quiet
Nickel*	6800-6820	8370-8375	6276	Steady

† (Cents per Troy oz). * ($ per tonne)

LONDON MEAT FUTURES (/kg)

Live Pig Contract

Mth	Open	Close
Feb	unq	.....
Apr	.....	.....
Jun	.....	.....
Aug	.....	.....

Live Cattle Contract

Feb	unq ...	.....
Apr	.....	.....
Jun	.....	.....

Vol Pig-..... Cattle-.....

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Av'ge fatstock prices at representative markets on February 18

(/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB (p)	67.25	149.37	107.89
GB (+/-)	-0.53	-3.95	-0.99
Eng/Wal (%)	-10.8	-6.7	-8.7
Eng/Wal (p)	67.15	151.07	108.03
Eng/Wal (+/-)	-0.58	-3.50	-1.05
Scotland (%)	+7.1	-31.7	-6.1
Scotland (p)	69.43	144.22	107.50
Scotland (+/-)	+0.57	-4.17	-0.76

* Estimated dead carcase weight

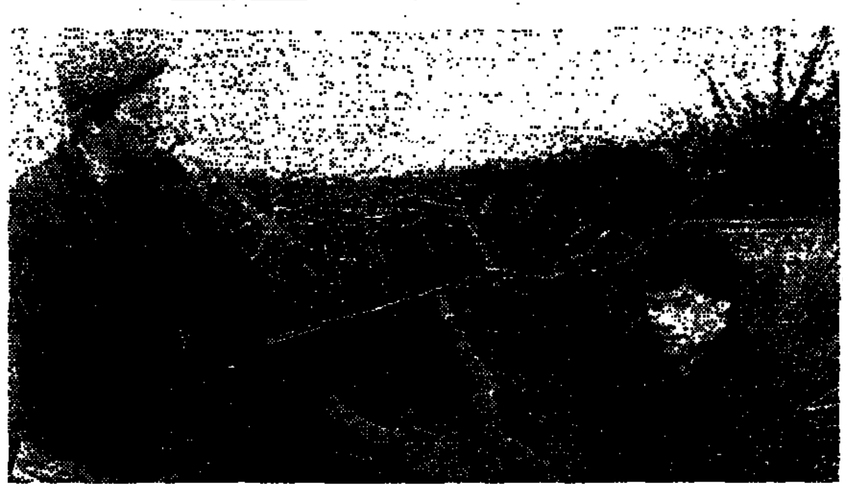
هكذا من الاصل

اصكذا عن الاجل

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Creating hedges for the future

By Veronica Heath


Gordon Hodgson and his son Stephen laying a hedge in Northumberland.

Gordon Hodgson is a hedge-layer, a North countryman who works at hedging and fencing in Northumberland and Durham, in all weathers, the year round.

He cuts into a hedge, reputedly 600 years old. For only the second time this century a hedger has been called in for remedial measures on this particular landmark. Gordon reckons that Northumberland grows some of the oldest hedges in Britain.

During the 1960s, nearly 9,000 miles of hedges were uprooted in Britain. Even with preservation orders on them many disappeared. Now, with a new appreciation of conservation and farmers being offered a 50 per cent grant from the Government to maintain their hedges, Gordon is in a reviving business again. Working with his son, Stephen, the two of them have as much work as they can handle.

The work is seasonal, with hedging from October to March, when the sap is going back, and fencing all summer. He can get through 70 yards of hedge-laying in a day and recently completed nearly 1,000 yards of hedge in three weeks.

Payment depends on the size of the hedge and for a young one about 17 feet high, £2 a yard is the going rate. It is correspondingly more for an old, neglected one. "My wife does the books and takes care of the dreaded VAT, so it's very much a family business."

Tools for the trade are minimal; a slasher or a switch knife and a small chain saw. Gordon regards mechanical hedge cutters as " a cheap, quick way to keep the countryside tidy, and most hedges are resilient enough to recover quite quickly.

"The trouble is," he admits ruefully, "they do tend to take off the tops and leave a hedge with no bottom. Then in time I'm called in to fence the gaps with wire."

Although he isn't complaining about this, as it brings in year-round work for the family business, nevertheless Gordon takes pride in his hedges and he considers them a very important feature of the landscape, a framework in the countryside, which counter the encroaching march of pylons and highways.

He has an interesting theory, born of a lifetime's experience of thorn hedges, that for every 100 years of the hedge's life there will be one species of shrub growing in it. So a hedge which is 200 years old will have two species and so on. As evidence of this theory, he reckons to take a 30-yard stretch of hedge at random and be able to count the number of different types of shrub in it.

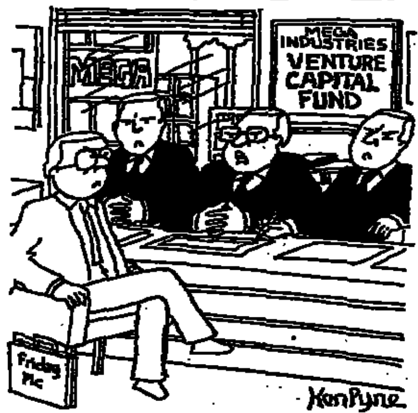
"Specific shrubs are often indications of the age of the hedge. For example, it is rare to find a hedge with field maple growing in it and only one or two other species," he explained. "But in an aged hedge with five or six species, it's likely field maple will be growing there too." He knows every tree or shrub growing in the average hedge and takes care to leave good saplings, while clearing out the rubbish.

The art of hedge laying is cutting three-quarters of the way through the stem of the thorn while retaining the bark face. A newly-established hedge should be protected for four years, after which it will be trimmed and correctly laid only occasionally. The Agricultural Board now runs one-day courses in hedge-laying, but it's not a skill so easily learned.

"I know one lady living near Bedlington with a really lovely old hedge who let an amateur lay it", said Gordon, sadly. "She really wept when she saw how he hacked it about. She knew it would take years and years to recover from such a shock — if it ever does. "

Northumberland County Council are planting good hawthorn hedges now on their land or where a vehicle has damaged a good hedge. The resident conservation officer in the county appreciates that hedges are important to the landscape and for preservation of wildlife.

MR FRIDAY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Cover for the smaller firm

■ An insurance advice centre has been opened in Birmingham as an Association of British Insurers initiative to help smaller businesses. Advice is being given on the main types of insurance needed by a small enterprise, with guidance on how to buy insurance. What insurers consider important when approached for insurance cover will also be explained. The centre is on the ninth floor, Alpha Tower, Suffolk Street, Queensway, Birmingham B1 1UR.

● **Contact:** *Advice.line, 021-643 9980*

■ Sally Slater, a senior consultant with Dunn & Bradstreet, is to run a workshop on mastering cash flow problems in the next Women into Business seminar, being organized under the aegis of the Small Business Bureau at Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London, on Saturday March 12. Mrs Slater will underline the need for setting up the right systems from the start

● **Contact:** *Irene Jeffary, Small Business Bureau, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HH; phone (01) 222 0330.*

■ Proposals from the Institute of Directors to cut red tape for small companies are being taken up by the Government for inclusion in the next Companies Bill. It will allow small businesses to opt out of the many elaborate requirements for holding shareholders' meetings and passing resolutions. But to do that will need the approval of all shareholders, not usually a problem in a small business.

Go north for shopping elbow space

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warman

Property Correspondent

A surprising reverse in the much-reported North-South divide is to be found in shopping-centre developments, according to figures published by Hillier Parker, the surveyors. The first regional breakdown in this field shows that the North leads in the per capita provision of purpose-built, shopping-floor space.

Hillier Parker report that despite high levels of shopping development throughout the country the gap is set to continue, with a surprising under-provision in the South, considering the higher than average levels of prosperity in the region.

The North, North-west, West Midlands and Scotland are not only the leaders in terms of the existing per capita provision of shopping centre floorspace,' but they are also ahead in current shopping development. The leading region in terms of existing stock, plus floor space under construction, is the West Midlands with 3.5 sq ft per capita, compared with East Anglia at the bottom of the list with 1.9 square feet. The total for the South-East is 2.8 sq ft per capita.

Hillier Parker say that this gap is the more striking if the per capita levels are compared to population projections. Areas of high population growth are experienceing not only lower than average per capita provision in absolute terms, but lower than average increases in provision as well, particularly in the high population band between East Anglia and the South-west.

Barry Turley of Hillier Parker said the high figures for the North and Midlands were a reflection of the high level of development activity undertaken in the 1960s and 1970s. He added:"The fact that the proposed per capita figures are also higher in these areas illustrates the particular difficulty in assembling large sites in many of the under-provided areas."

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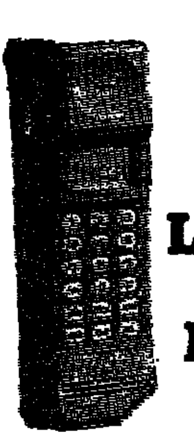

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Continued from page 29

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Continued from page 17

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
Electroll Limited
(In Receivership)
Company Number : 670644

We, Neil Hunter Cooper and James Kenneth Rees Jones of 166 City Road, London. EC1V 2NU pursuant to Section 46 of the Insolvency Act 1986, hereby give notice that on 11th February 1988 we were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of the whole of the property of the Company by National Westminster Bank PLC under the powers contained in a debenture dated 13th September 1976
N H Cooper
Joint Administrative Receiver
Dated this 11th day of February 1988

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106 (1)
STATUSGUARD LIMITED
MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mr George Albert Auger. Certified Accountant of Messrs Stoy Hayward. 8 Baker Street. London W1M 1DA. was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company following an Extraordinary General Meeting of the company on 10 February 1988.
Dated this 12th day of February 1988
G A AUGER - Liquidator
Note: This notice is purely formal. All known creditors have been. or will be. paid in full.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE IN BANKRUPTCY
NO 1026 of 1987

RE: LEONARD ADOLPHUS BROWN of 38 Algiton Road. London SE4 and carrying on business as LEATHERWARE MANUFACTURER at 9 Fournier Street. London E1.

I, Nigel J. Halls. Chartered Accountant of Deloitte Haskins & Sells Lennox House. Spa Road. Gloucester. GL1 1XD HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I have been appointed and certificated by the Department of Trade as Trustee in the above matter.
All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the Estate must deliver them to me. and all debts due to the Estate must be paid to me.
Creditors who have not proved their debts must forward their Proof of Debt to me.
Nigel J. Halls
Trustee

IN THE MATTER OF TELEVISION PARLOUR (SOUTH) LTD
AND
IN THE MATTER OF TELEVISION PARLOUR (COSHAM) LTD
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE TELEVISION PARLOUR (HOLDINGS) LTD
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986

In accordance with Rule 4 106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that Maurice Charles Withall of Grant Thornton. Grant Thornton House. Melton Street. Euston Square. London NW1 2EP and William Morys Roberts of Ernst & Whinney. 1 Lambeth Palace Road. London SE1 were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above companies by the contributories on 3 February 1988.

IN THE MATTER OF ZOOTOPIA LTD
(T/A "RAINBOWS END")
AND
IN THE MATTER OF NETWORK VIDEO LTD

Further. that Maurice Charles Withall of Grant Thornton. Grant *Thornton* House. Melton Street. Euston Square. London NW1 2EP and William Morys Roberts of Ernst & Whinney. 1 Lambeth Palace Road. London SE1 were appointed joint liquidators of the above companies by the creditors on 3 February 1988
Dated this 8 day of February 1988
M C Withall and W M Roberts
JOINT LIQUIDATORS

TELEVISION PARLOUR (SOUTH) LTD
ZOOTOPIA LTD
(T/A "RAINBOWS END")
NETWORK VIDEO LTD
TELEVISION PARLOUR (COSHAM) LTD
THE TELEVISION PARLOUR (HOLDINGS) LTD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above named companies, which have been compulsorily wound up are required, on or before 23 March *1988 to prove their debts by* sending to the undersigned M C Withall of Grant Thornton. Grant Thornton House. Melton Street. London NW1 2EP the Joint Liquidator of the companies. written statements of the amounts they claim to be due to them from the companies and. if so requested. to provide such further details or produce such documentary or other evidence as may appear to the Joint Liquidator to be necessary. A creditor who has not proved his debt before the declaration of any dividend is not entitled to disturb, by reason that he has not participated in it. the distribution of that dividend or any other dividend declared before his debt was proved.
Date. 9 February 1988
M C WITHALL
Joint Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
No. 00 451 of 1988
IN THE MATTER of N M SCHRODER LIFE ASSURANCE LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER of THE NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER of THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ACT 1982

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 26th January 1988 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) by the above-named N M Schroder Life Assurance Limited (hereinafter referred to as "NMSLAL") for the sanction of the Court under Section 49 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 to a Scheme ("the Scheme") providing for the transfer to NMSLAL of that part of the long term business (as defined by Section 1(1) of the said Act) of The National Mutual Life Association of Australasia Limited (hereinafter referred to as "NMLA") carried on within the United Kingdom and for orders making ancillary provisions in connection with the said transfer under section 50 of the said Act.
Copies of the said Petition, the Scheme, a joint report of Actuaries instructed on behalf of NMSLAL and NMLA and a Report by an independent Actuary in pursuance of the said Section 49 of the said Act may be inspected at each of the offices specified in the Schedule hereto during normal business hours for a period of 28 days from the publication of this notice.
The Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr. Justice Mervyn Davies at the Royal Courts of Justice. Strand. London on Monday the 21st day of March 1988. Any person (including any employee of NMSLAL and NMLA who claims that he or she would be adversely affected by the Scheme) may appear at the time of the said hearing in person or by Counsel. Any person who intends so to appear. and any Policyholder of NMSLAL and NMLA who dissents from the Scheme but does not intend so to appear. should give not less than two clear days' prior notice in writing of such intention or dissent and of the reasons therefor to the Solicitors named below.
Copies of the documents referred to above will be furnished by such Solicitors to any person requiring them prior to the making of an Order sanctioning the Scheme on payment of the prescribed charge for the same.
Dated this 2nd day of February 1988

SLAUGHTER AND MAY.
35 Basinghall Street. London. EC2V 5DB.
Solicitors for NMSLAL and NMLA

THE SCHEDULE herein before referred to Addresses of offices for inspecting documents in England unless otherwise stated

NM House
Seldown
Poole. Dorset
BH15 1TD

Chaucer House
Isambard Brunel Rd
Portsmouth
Hampshire PO1 2AW

Kings House
Bond Street
Bristol BS1 3AE

Miller House
43/51 Lower Stone St
Maidstone
ME15 6LN

Southgate Office Village
286C Chase Road
Southgate
London

1st Floor
Lion House
Red Lion Street
Richmond TW9 1RE

Gloucester House
Smallbrook
Queensway
Birmingham B5 4HP

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Church Street
Ware.
Herts

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Reigate RH2 9AY

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Croydon CRO 1YD

111 Piccadilly
Manchester
M1 2HY

Wharncliffe Hse
44 Bank Street
Sheffield
S1 2DS

15/16 Lincolns Inn Fields
London
WC2M 7AY

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52 Brown Street
Manchester M2 2LD

6/8 Hampshire Terrace
Portsmouth
PO1 2QF

3rd Floor
Dax House
22 Howard Street
Belfast BT1 6PA
Northern Ireland

Kings House
Windmore Road
Bromley Kent BR1 3BD

124-5 Princes St
Edinburgh EH2 4BD
Scotland

Wellington House
22 Wellington St
Leicester LE1 6HL

10th Floor
Trafford House
Chester Road
Manchester M32 ORS

20 The Parade
High Street
Watford WD1 2AA

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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
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Canberra 2601

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
111 St George's Terrace
Perth 6000

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70 The Terrace
Wellington

National Mutual Centre
153-156 Hereford Street
Christchurch

National Mutual Building
1st Floor. The Octagon
10 George Street
Dunedin

National Mutual Centre
15th Floor
41 Shortland Street
Auckland

صكنا من الاصل

Motoring by Clifford Webb

How to stay top of the Range

It is nearly 20 years since the Range Rover first appeared and despite little outward change in all that time it still dominates the luxury end of the four-wheel drive, cross-country estate car market.

It has fought off attacks from competent Japanese rivals costing half its price. Management at Solihull bravely resisted the temptation to cheapen the product. Instead it made the Range Rover more luxurious and more expensive. "We set out to create the same charismatic image as another company whose initials are RR," was how a former managing director put it.

Range Rover Vogue SE: New model with a wealth of refinements

The "cheapest" Range Rover today costs £19,165 compared to £11,929 for the Mitsubishi Shogun, its closest rival. But Range Rover enthusiasts continue to vindicate the "make it more luxurious" policy by buying the most expensive version.

More than 90 per cent of all sales in Britain are of the £21,191 Range Rover Vogue. With automatic transmission costing an extra £1,123 and other options, that can easily be increased to £25,000.

Now comes news of a still more expensive version to be launched at Geneva Motor Show next month. The Vogue SE (special equipment) will cost £27,349. With full air-conditioning, electrically adjusted leather seats, polished walnut interior trim, electrically-operated sun roof and windows and extensive use of sound deadening material it will be distinguishable only from the outside by a discreet pinstrip coach line.

The Vogue I drove recently illustrated the wealth of refinement put into the vehicle in recent years. The annoying gear whine which made long journeys so tiring has been eliminated by re-designing the centre differential and two-speed transfer box. The 3.5 alloy V8 engine now has fuel injection and combined with ZF's four-speed automatic, boasting an overdrive top, has restored the punch which was lost when switching from manual to automatic.

It does however require a few minutes warming up before moving off on cold mornings or it will expire at the first halt sign and persist in running lumpily for the first few miles.

Another minor complaint is the continuing difficulty in engaging the locking points on the folding rear screen.

Vital statistics

Model: Range Rover Vogue Automatic
Price: £22,314
Engine: 3528cc alloy V8 injected
Performance: 0-60 mph 11.9 seconds, maximum speed 104 mph
Official consumption: Urban 14.6 mpg, 56 mph 26.2 mpg and 75 mph 20.2 mpg
Length: 14.6 feet
Insurance: Group 6

VW launches the roomier Passat

New Volkswagen Passat: Change to a transverse engine

Volkswagen has at last taken steps to close the gap in its range caused by the increasingly outdated Passat, its only contender in the upper-medium saloon sector.

A new Passat saloon and estate will be launched next month and go on sale here in early summer.

The sleek new body boasts a 0.29 drag coefficient and judging from early photographs is easy on the eye. By switching the engine from north-south mounting to east-west, lengthening the wheel base and widening the track, the Wolfsburg team has found more space for passengers and luggage. The saloon now has 35.3 cubic feet of luggage space and the estate a massive 60 cubic feet.

Uniquely for a car in this class the rear bench seat can be adjusted for comfort. It also splits 1/3 or 2/3 allowing passengers to make individual adjustments.

Engine options include 1.6, 1.8 and 2.0 litre versions of updated existing designs. The 2.0 litre now has 16 valves giving the GT version a top speed of 128 mph and a 0-62 mph time on 9.9 seconds. They will be followed later this year by a new intercooled version of VW's 1.6 litre turbo diesel unit producing eight bhp more than the 1.6 petrol.

Changing to a transverse engine has enabled VW to introduce a new five-speed gear box which is smaller and lighter and still has a much improved gear change.

Of particular interest is a central locking system which also closes windows and the sun roof. There is nothing more annoying than finding you have left electric windows open.

VW engineers along with many of their European colleagues are not sold on the virtues of the four-wheel steering now appearing on some Japanese cars. They insist that the new rear suspension on Passat with self-adjusting bearings gives the same benefit without adding to the cost, complexity and weight.

Rover 800s get engines they deserve

More expensive versions of the Rover 800 range now have the engine they deserve.

Ever since their launch in July 1986, the Rover 825i and Sterling versions of the Anglo-Japanese executive saloon have suffered from a lack of power in the important low to medium rev band.

This week Austin Rover announced that the current 2.5 litre V6 Honda engine has been replaced by a 2.7 unit with excellent mid-range acceleration and a higher top speed.

The same engine is in the coupé version of the Honda Legend I drove recently. Its flexibility and power were impressive.

A new electronic automatic transmission with a choice of "sport" or "cruising" is fitted as standard and a five-speed manual is available at no extra cost.

The additional cost is a surprisingly small £447 for the 827iSL which replaces the 825i and £1055 more for the flagship Sterling.

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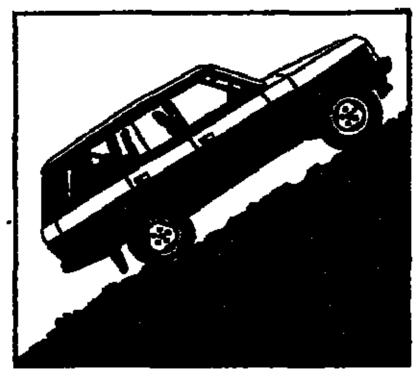

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81 Aston Martin Lagonda Silver, Blue hide. E/S/R, 38,000 mls. FSH.	[illegible]
76 Aston Martin [illegible] Met Blue, Beige hide, auto, A/C, service history.	£17,995
67 Aston Martin DB6 L/H/D. Blue/Black hide, chrome wires, A/C, E/windows. History	£14,995
86 (D) Jaguar Sovereign V12 Select Blue. Savile hide. A/C, cruise, FSH, 23,000 mls	[illegible]
85 (C) Jaguar XJS 3.6 Cabriolet. White. Beige hide, alloys. FSH, 9,000 mls	[illegible]
85 (B) Jaguar XJS 3.6 Cabriolet, White, Black hide, alloys. FSH, 45,000 mls	£17,995
73 (M) Jaguar E Type V12 Roadster, White, Black hide. L/H/D, 16,800 mls. History	[illegible]
87 (D) Mercedes 250TD Signal Red, Black velour, 5 spd. E/roof. 10,000 mls. FSH	£18,950
86 (D) Mercedes 230T White/Black, auto, e/roof, c/locking. Stereo, 14,000 mls. FSH	[illegible]
84 (B) Mercedes 500 SEC Silver, Blue velour, ABS, A/C, cruise, FSH, 42,000 mls.	[illegible]
87 (E) Range Rover EFi Vogue. Choice of 5	EPOA
87 (D) Toyota Supra 3.0 5 spd. PAS, A/C, cruise, 2,000 mls. FSH	[illegible]
87 (D) Datsun 300ZX Turbo Targa White/Grey, 5 spd. cruise, e/w, 5,000 mls. History	£14,995

For further details over the weekend telephone [illegible]

1986 JAGUAR SOVEREIGN 4.2

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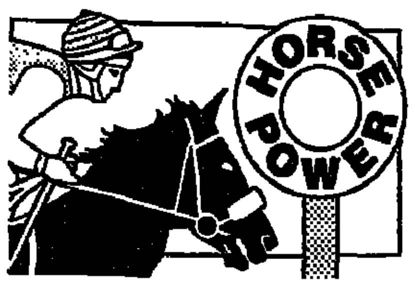
How a doubtful runner called the Totalisator was reined back on course to become a total success in a nation of punters

Turning a nanny-goat into a dead cert



By offering punters a pool-betting service and channelling its profits straight back into racing, the Tote, set up by an Act of Parliament in 1928, has a unique place in the sport. In the last of his four-part series on the state of racing **Christopher R. Hill** traces the history of what he calls this "peculiarly British and well-loved institution."

Woodrow Wyatt, the chairman of the Horserace Totalisator Board since 1976, believes that there is no more moral activity than betting. "It provides," he says, "a satisfactory intellectual pursuit akin to *The Times* crossword and allows working men the rare opportunity to make decisions independently of wives, foremen or shop stewards."

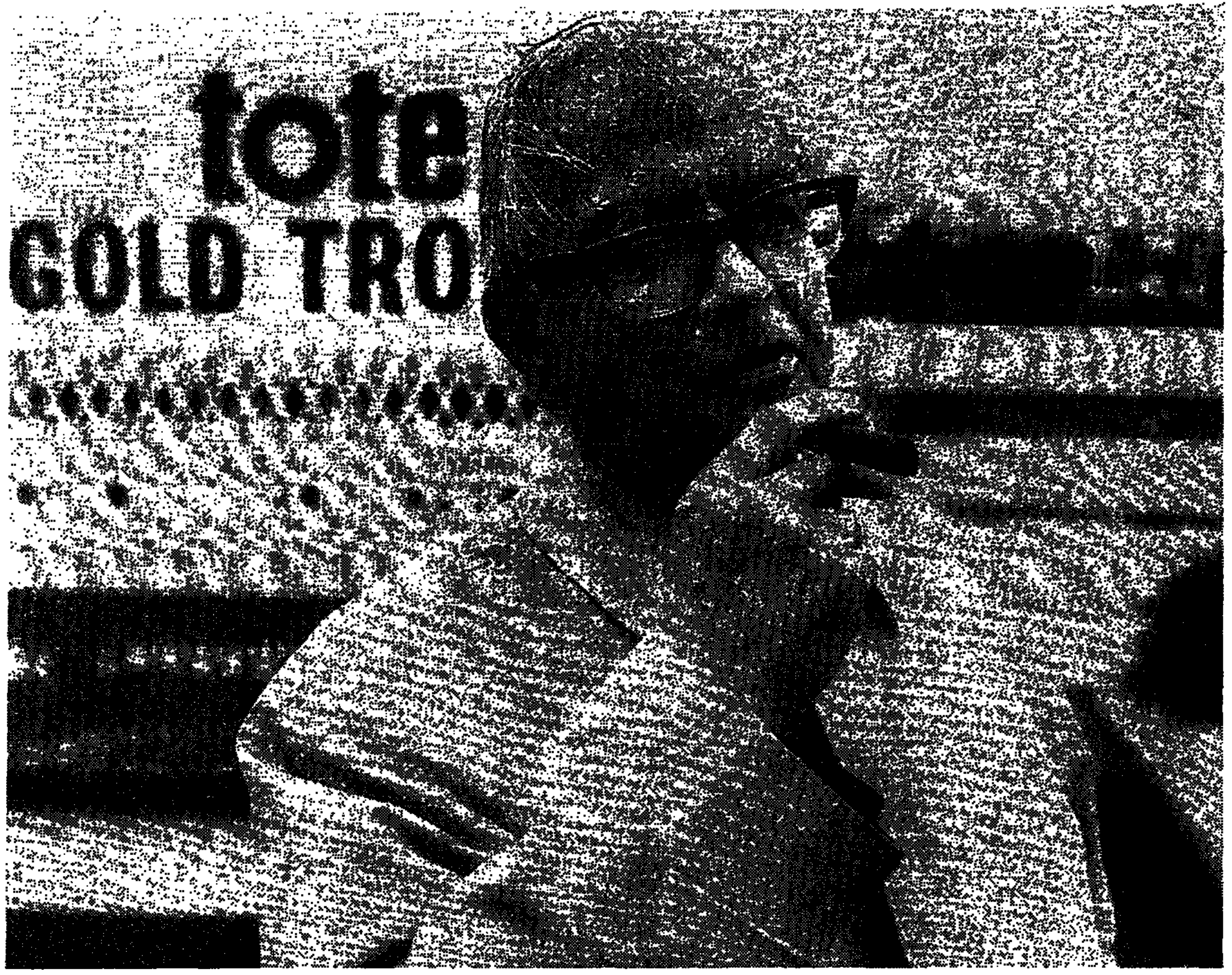
Since Roy Jenkins, the Home Secretary, persuaded Lord Wyatt (as he now is) to take it over, the Tote has prospered after long periods during which indifferent management and inadequate finance had given it the reputation of a moribund nanny-goat, as Lord Oaksey, using the Cockney rhyming slang, said in a House of Lords debate in 1980.

The Tote, known originally as the Racecourse Betting Control Board, was set up by an Act of Parliament on the initiative of the Jockey Club in 1928, with the co-operation of Winston Churchill, the then Chancellor of the Exchequer. He told the stewards of the Jockey Club that the Government would not itself introduce legislation but would provide facilities for a private member's bill.

The Jockey Club's purpose was to raise money from pool betting for the benefit of racing. Changes in the law were needed before the Tote could be installed on racecourses because an Act of 1853 made it illegal to create a "place" at which betting would be conducted, although the act of betting for cash on courses was not in itself illegal.

Thus a bookmaker who was constantly moving about while conducting his business would not have been breaking the law. Another act, passed in 1873, characterized as "rogues and vagabonds" those who made use of any machine or other device for betting.

The club had hoped that the Tote would be a private body but the original proposals were much amended in Parliament and it emerged as a statutory body, though still with a Jockey Club and National Hunt Committee majority. Its purposes were to provide the public with an alternative to betting with bookmakers and spend its profits "for purposes conducive to the improvement of breeds of horses or the sport of horse racing in accordance with the scheme prepared by the board and approved by the Home Secretary".



The man who rides a winner: Lord Wyatt, toting a cigar and touting betting as an intellectual pursuit "akin to The Times crossword" (Photograph: Dave Hartley)

The Tote first operated on flat courses on July 2, 1929, at Newmarket and Carlisle. In its first annual report the board said that "the establishment of the Totalisator has done much to revive an interest in racing and to attract a new class of public to this valuable sport".

One early difficulty was to find suitable machines. The board learnt of many varieties of Tote, including one used in South Australia, which "worked partly by electricity and partly by gravitation with marbles". But the machines in use abroad were used mostly for centralized racing and so could be permanently installed, whereas in Britain, with its many racecourses, it was necessary to have something light enough to transport from place to place.

Another problem was credit betting. The Tote was required to operate on a cash-only basis on course and all the money taken had to go into the pool. It did, however, manage to promote a modified form of credit betting by introducing pre-paid credit notes or "chits" (the report noted that the word originated in the Indian Empire), which could be obtained from the punter's bank. He could then have any winnings credited to his account, though he could not collect them on course.

The Tote also wanted to capture some of the off-course betting market, at first sight an ambition difficult to realize, as the law allowed it to operate only on-course. It therefore negotiated a most ingenious deal with the London and Provincial Sporting News Agency Limited, known as the "Blower", whereby the Blower telephoned in the bets to a special room in the Tote building.

This room communicated with the chit office, which accepted chits from the Blower and gave it a commission. Since the Blower had bought the chits from the bank, the Tote was able to take off-course money without breaking the law, which obliged it to operate on-course only. Those were enterprising days.

The Tote, despite being under-capitalized from the start, made donations to racing in every year from 1933 onwards, except 1939. The Jockey Club became accustomed to seeing the Tote as the natural source of subsidy and when the possibility of legalizing off-course cash betting and introducing betting shops began to be seriously mooted in the early 1960s some canny racing men realized that now was the time to press for a Tote monopoly instead. This would have meant the harnessing of all legal betting for the benefit of racing, and doing away with bookmakers, at least off course.

To deprive such a determined body of men of their livelihood was a political hot potato, as the present Earl of Carnarvon (the Queen's racing manager since 1969) discovered. As a young man he was talking to Churchill at a dinner party at Blenheim on Derby day 1953. Elated by having backed Pinza, the long-priced winner, he ventured to suggest to the great man that the best thing he could do for racing would be to abolish bookmakers.

Churchill's response was stern: "Why," he asked, "should bookmakers not be allowed to earn their living like anyone else? In any case, the word abolished should never be used; it should be struck from one's vocabulary." But Churchill forgave Carnarvon his temerity because he, too, had backed Pinza.

The most persistent and far-sighted of the Tote monopoly's proponents was John (later Sir John) Astor, who entered Parliament in 1951 but, unfortunately for racing, was not elected to the Jockey Club until 1959. He worked hard in Parliament for a monopoly but by 1956 had concluded that, although the best answer to racing's problems, it was a non-runner, in the absence of any real backing from the Jockey Club.

Nor was there any obvious support from punters, and the bookmakers had a well-organized anti-Tote lobby in the House, so that Astor transferred his efforts to promoting debate about how money from both bookmakers and the Tote might best be returned to racing, preferably with the bookmakers' co-operation.

Even if co-operation failed, he hoped to reveal the large volume of off-course betting and the substantial profits from it, both of which the bookmakers habitually minimized. In fact, they did co-operate and the result was the levy on bookmakers' profits (later on their turnover) which has been administered by the Horserace Betting Levy Board since 1961.

It is difficult to find rational grounds for the lukewarm attitude of the great men in racing to the idea of a Tote monopoly. The answer seems to be that, although they willed the end of increasing their sports revenues, they did not will the means of abolishing bookmakers, who were colourful, even flamboyant, characters.

One could establish a personal relationship with them, enter into friendly rivalry, enjoy the fun of haggling over the odds. You cannot do any of these things with a machine. So bookmakers were an essential part of the pleasure of racing and it was that that saved them, as well, of course, as the political skill they displayed in the face of danger.

In 1961 the Racecourse Betting Control Board was reconstituted as the Horserace Totalisator Board. Its career has been patchy, particularly during Lord Wigg's period as chairman of the Levy Board, when the Tote was for some years unable to pay its contribution to the levy.

The Horserace Totalisator and Levy Board Act of 1972 (emasculated by the bookmakers on its way through Parliament) gave the Tote the right to operate as a bookmaker as well as to conduct pool betting and it thereupon bought large numbers of betting shops, many of which were unsuccessful and had to be resold.

Wigg came out against the measure. "A nationalized bookmaker," he said, "is likely to be as successful as a milk-drinking crocodile." The act might give the Tote freedom but it would be "the kind of freedom suffered by the canary when it is out of its cage and finds itself attacked by the sparrows".

There was much for Lord Wyatt to sort out when he became chairman in 1976. His first years were marred by unfortunate incidents of dividend fixing in 1976 and 1979 but he was completely exonerated of any personal responsibility for mistakes made by over-enthusiastic employees. Since then the Tote has slimmed its staff and shed many of its betting shops.

On the racecourses conveniently sited kiosks have sprung up, so for the lazy or infirm punter the effort is far less to bet with the Tote than to make his way to the bookmakers. Sophisticated computing equipment, after years of trial and error, instantaneously works out and shows on screens the changing odds of the runners and displays the dividend immediately after the race.

Relationships with the racecourses have greatly improved, thanks to the increased payments now made to them, and the Tote is the largest individual commercial sponsor of racing. It has the sixth largest chain of betting shops (120 plus 22 racecourse betting shops) behind the Big Four and Stanley Leisure but fifth in turnover.

It claims the largest number of credit accounts, probably because it attracts small punters who may bet as little as £1 each way, rather than the high rollers. It holds five per cent of the equity of Satellite Information Services, the recently formed consortium which delivers television pictures from the racecourses to the betting shops.

Off course the Tote is virtually indistinguishable from any other bookmaker and in its shops, which account for more than half its turnover, only 5.8 per cent of the bets taken are at Tote odds. One of its most popular offerings is the Placepot, where the punter has to find a placed horse in each of six races — more difficult than it sounds.

The Tote has resolved its identity crisis by going all out for profit while continuing to provide pool betting for those who want it. By international standards, it is a small-scale operation: its record turnover was nearly £137 million in 1980-81 and that is in a sense a false figure because it had nearly twice as many betting shops then as now.

Its profit in 1986-87, after betting duty and expenses, was £6.4 million (more than double the previous year's figures) on a turnover of £125.5 million: it does not reveal the profit breakdown between on-course credit and betting shop operations. The Tote's contribution to racing consisted of £687,000 levy, £282,000 sponsorship and £1,541,000 payments to racecourses, a grand total of £2,510,000.

The Tote is peculiarly British and a well-loved institution, with a splendidly varied board which includes Prince Michael of Kent and Lord Chapple, one-time general secretary of the Electricians' Union. No longer a nanny-goat, it may even be a candidate for privatization.

*Christopher R. Hill is a writer on racing and senior lecturer in politics at York University. His latest book, **Horse Power — The Politics of the Turf**, is published on February 25 by Manchester University Press (£21.50).*

House of Lords

Law Report February 19 1988

Criticism of council in access case unjustified

In re K D (a Minor)

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton and Lord Goff of Chieveley

[Speeches February 18]

Criticism by a judge and the Court of Appeal of the conduct of a local authority, who decided that a mother's access to her young child ought to be terminated, was unjustified.

The House of Lords so indicated when dismissing the mother's appeal from the Court of Appeal (*The Times* February 17, 1987) who affirmed an order made in wardship proceedings by Judge Myrella Cohen, QC, sitting as a judge of the High Court on November 24, 1986, whereby the mother's access to the child was terminated and the local authority were given leave to place the child for adoption.

Mr Alan Ward, QC and Miss Sheila Stephenson for the mother; Mr Mathew Thorpe, QC and Miss Sally Bradley for the local authority, Newcastle upon Tyne City Council.

LORD OLIVER said that no judge called on to exercise the court's jurisdiction in wardship could be unaware that cases occasionally occurred where a decision taken by a local authority — sometimes, effectively, by a single social worker — was properly to be categorized as dictatorial, insensitive or prejudiced.

To say that was to say no more than that local authorities were conducted and staffed by human beings and thus subject to human fallibility. When such cases occurred, it was right they should be censored.

On the facts, however, and with deference to the judge and the Court of Appeal, his Lordship was not persuaded that the present was such a case or that the difficulties with which the local authority had been faced had been sufficiently appreciated.

The appeal concerned a child born in March 1983. During his first nine months he lived with and was cared for by his mother. In 1984 the local authority were presented with the difficult situation of a young, immature, and irresponsible, mother who had left her child with short-term foster parents who could not reasonably be expected to keep him indefinitely.

They decided that there was no reasonable possibility of the child being rehabilitated with his mother and they placed him in the care of entirely suitable long-term foster parents.

The local authority took the view that further access visits by the mother would be unsettling for the child and they applied for an order terminating her access. The Court of Appeal recognized that the local authority had a difficult duty to perform but was of the view that access should not be cut off for the time being, although the position would require to be reviewed in the future.

His Lordship was quite unable to discern in the subsequent conduct of the local authority anything that could fairly described as a disregard of the spirit of that order.

Following a report by a paediatrician, access was increased as a diagnostic exercise throughout 1985. In December 1985 it was intimated that the local authority had decided to apply again to terminate access and to seek leave to arrange for adoption.

The judge described that decision as "extraordinary". It might well have been more tactfully communicated, but, in the light of the facts, the decision, although from the mother's point of view perhaps a harsh one, was hardly irrational.

Evidence before the judge clearly pointed to adoption as the only viable long-term solution. Additionally, the evidence established a deteriorating pattern of access, with the child displaying alarmingly acute signs of distress on access visits.

The judge concluded that there was effectively no alternative in the interests of the child to making the order sought.

It was submitted, first, that a natural parent had a legal right to have access to his or her child and, second, that, although that right might be overborne by considerations of the welfare of the child, it must prevail and be given effect to where there was no positive evidence that access to the child would be damaging to him.

It was argued that, not only was support to be found for the existence of a legal right of access in statute and in some at least of the English authorities, but that the right was one recognized by the European Court of Human Rights, in *R v United Kingdom* (6/1986/104/152) (*The Times* July 9, 1987) as a fundamental element of family life protected by the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

In the light of that, their Lordships had been invited to reconsider the approach to such cases as it had emerged from *J v C* ([1970] AC 668).

Such conflict as existed was semantic only and lay only in differing ways of expressing the single common concept that the natural bond and relationship between parent and child gave rise to universally recognized norms which ought not to be gratuitously interfered with and which, if interfered with at all, ought to be so only if the welfare of the child dictated it.

When the jurisdiction of the court was invoked for the protection of the child the parental privileges did not terminate but became immediately subservient to the paramount consideration of the welfare of the child.

That was the basis of the decision in *J v C* and there was nothing in *R v United Kingdom* which contradicted or cast any doubt on it or which now called for any reappraisal of it.

No one considering the background of the present case could be insensitive to the distress of the young mother or unsympathetic to her natural desire to maintain contact with her child, but his Lordship had no doubt that the judge had reached the right conclusion on all the material before her.

It might be that there might come a time when the mother might marry and settle down with a stable establishment into which the child could be received as a member of an integrated family. It was not, however, in the future but in the present that the decision about the child's future had finally to be made.

Lord Templeman delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Keith, Lord Brandon and Lord Goff agreed.

Solicitors: Bower Cotton & Bower for Stanford & Lambert, Newcastle upon Tyne; Collyer-Bristow for Mr R. A. A. Brockington, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Care proceedings take priority

Regina v Exeter Juvenile Court, Ex parte H

Regina v Waltham Forest Juvenile Court, Ex parte B

Recourse to the judicial review procedure should not follow from the refusal of a juvenile court to grant an adjournment of care proceedings on the application of a parent who was facing criminal charges which involved the child, the subject of the care proceedings. The interests of the child demanded that care proceedings should proceed without any undue delay.

Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, sitting as an additional judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated on February 11, in refusing applications for judicial review to quash decisions of justices not to grant adjournments.

THE PRESIDENT said that in the first case the stepfather had been charged with an indecent assault on the friend of his stepdaughter. The local authority had instituted care proceedings relating to the stepdaughter who would be a corroborative witness in the criminal proceedings.

In the second case both parents had been charged with cruelty and wilful neglect of five children. Place of safety orders had been made in respect of each child and care proceedings under section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 instituted.

Before each juvenile court it had been submitted on behalf of each respective parent that to continue the care proceedings would prejudice the parent in the subsequent criminal proceedings.

The guiding principle was the welfare of the child. The fact that criminal proceedings were pending was not a bar to the hearing of the care proceedings.

It could not be said that the decision of the justices not to adjourn was wholly unreasonable within the *Wednesbury* sense ([1948] KB 223) as defined by Lord Diplock in *Council of Civil Service Unions v Minister for the Civil Service* ([1985] AC 374, 410.

The President stressed that the welfare of the child was paramount and that it was vital that care proceedings should proceed with great despatch. Any delay in care proceedings involved risk to a child. The fact that criminal proceedings were pending could not mean that there should be an automatic adjournment of the care proceedings.

Court of Appeal

Insufficient corroboration

Regina v Willoughby

Before Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice McCullough and Mr Justice Saville

[Judgment February 10]

The physical appearance of a defendant, however singular, and however closely it corresponded with a description given by a victim, could not, without more, amount to corroboration of her evidence.

The Court of Appeal so held in upholding the appeal of Larry Clive Willoughby against his convictions on January 9, 1987 at Southwark Crown Court (Judge Anwyl-Davies, QC and a jury) of kidnapping, indecent assault and assault occasioning actual bodily harm on which he had been sentenced to life imprisonment and to two concurrent terms of five years' imrisonment respectively.

Mr Andre De Moller, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Nicholas Bridges-Adams for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE SAVILLE, giving the judgment of the court, said that a female child aged nine had been kidnapped and later assaulted. It was admitted on behalf of the appellant at his trial that the child had been kidnapped and assaulted and the only issue was whether the appellant had committed the offences.

Counsel for the appellant had submitted that in giving a direction to the jury on corroboration the trial judge had erred in saying that there was one piece of such evidence and that was the evidence of the victim talking about the assailant having spots on his face and their view of the defendant's face and the markings on it.

Counsel had submitted that the fact that the appellant had a spot on his face at the trial in January could not possibly corroborate the evidence of the complainant that her assailant had a spot or spots the previous July since the only evidence before the jury was that of the appellant himself who said that he had developed the spot while in custody after arrest.

The existence of a spot or spots was not such an unusual occurrence that it could amount to any form of corroboration at all.

In their Lordships' view there was an even more fundamental objection to treating the material in question as capable in law of amounting to corroboration.

The physical appearance of an appellant, however singular, and however closely it corresponded with a description given by a victim, could not, without more, amount to corroboration of her evidence.

Where independent evidence had established, at its best, that the appellant had the same feature, there was nothing in that to establish the reliability of the victim's evidence that the assailant had that feature.

The fact that the appellant had a particular feature was only of significance if it was first assumed that the assailant had the same feature, but where that assumption was based on the evidence of the victim then there was nothing in the independent evidence tending to establish the reliability of the victim's description or her identification of the appellant as her assailant.

Their Lordships also upheld a submission that the trial judge had failed to give a proper direction to the jury on corroboration generally. It was the function of the jury not only to decide whether or not they accepted the evidence but also whether or not they regarded the evidence legally capable of amounting to corroboration as in fact doing so in the circumstances of the case. The effect of the direction had been to remove the latter function from the jury.

The use of the proviso had been considered but their Lordships were not satisfied that with a proper direction on corroboration the jury would nevertheless have reached the same conclusion. Their doubts sprang from the fact that the rules about corroboration had evolved from long experience which had taught that they were necessary for the administration of justice.

Thus if they were not to be followed in the case of a witness to whom the rules applied, then unless the failure was minimal, it had to follow that justice might not have been done. Therefore it was only in an exceptional case that the proviso could be applied where there had been a failure properly to direct the jury on the question of corroboration.

For those reasons the appeal would be allowed and the convictions quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Southwark.

No access order for putative father

In re P (Minors: Access)

P v P (Gateshead Metropolitan BC intervening)

Where an illegitimate child had been committed by order of a county court to the care of a local authority under section 2(2)(*b*) of the Guardianship Act 1973, the putative father had no right to apply to the juvenile court for access under section 12C of the Child Care Act 1980 (as added by the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983), and neither the High Court nor the county court would exercise its jurisdiction under section 9 of the Guardianship of Minors Act 1971 to grant him access because of the principle that the court would not interfere with a local authority's exercise of its statutory powers in respect of children (see *In re M and H (Minors) (Local Authority: Parental Rights)* (*The Times* May 26, 1987; [1987] 3 WLR 759)).

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Stocker) so held on February 11, allowing an appeal by the putative father of four children from Gateshead County Court (Judge Paling).

The court set aside the judge's order refusing him access but made no other order on the basis that, an order under section 2(2)(*b*) of the 1973 Act having since been made, there was no useful purpose in remitting the father's application to the county court or to the High Court.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that there was a strong case for considering whether substantial legislation was required to clarify and consolidate the existing complicated and somewhat muddled child care legislation.

Correction

In *Waddon v Whitecroft Scovill Ltd* (*The Times* February 15) Rooks Ryder took over as London agents for the defendants from Park Nelson.

مصور عن الاصل

Lyphento to be Gifford standard-bearer

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

It should prove profitable following Josh Gifford and Richard Rowe at Sandown today, just as it was four weeks ago at Kempton where they were responsible for four winners. This time, though, I think that the successful Findon duo will have to be content with just three.

Pride of place goes to **Lyphento**, who is napped to regain the winning thread in the Birchwood Novices' Hurdle. So impressive that memorable day at Kempton, Lyphento then lost no caste in defeat when he failed to give 8lb to the current Triumph Hurdle favourite Surf Board over today's course and distance 13 days ago.

As Lyphento would have had Gilt Bronze for breakfast when they were both trained on the Flat at Pulborough by Guy Harwood – Lyphento won the Blue Riband Classic Trial at Epsom while Gilt Bronze landed a humdrum maiden at Redcar – the obvious danger on this occasion is Surf Board's stable companion, The Ram, who won three times on the Flat in Ireland last year.

However, on this occasion I will be disappointed if he can beat Lyphento, whose experience should prove the decisive factor.

If **Dad's Gamble** is to be taken seriously for the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham next month, he ought to win the Stand Novices' Chase now that the ground has dried in his favour. Signficantly, Gifford has a key line on Southernair, his principal danger, through Yeoman Broker, another Findon inmate.

Twelve months ago, Gifford won the Stanley Handicap Chase with Catch Phrase, and I envisage him coming up trumps again with **Chief Ironside**, although his form figures hardly inspire confidence.

After falling at the first at Ascot in December, he obviously needed the race here 13 days ago when he contested the Gainsborough Chase. He will be fitter now and the opposition is not nearly so stiff either.

While Gifford is obviously hoping that Paddyboro can add to his recent Doncaster gains by winning the Mole Handicap Chase, I still feel that it goes against the grain to oppose Mr Key, who finished 23 lengths in front of him at Lingfield in December.

Obviously the weights are different now but not sufficient in my view to turn the tables. Only a fall at the last fence prevented Mr Key from winning his most recent race at Newbury by a wide margin.

On the corresponding occasion last year, Polyfemus was runner-up to Comandante in the EBF Novices' Hurdle qualifier. Now the Nicky Henderson-trained six-year-old will have to do much better than he did at the previous meeting if he is to reverse the form with either **Serious Man** or Dawn Prince.

At Edinburgh, I give **Brigarona** a good chance of coming good in what is his first attempt in handicap company in the Kilmany Cup, while **Bushido** will relish the distance of the 100 Pipers Handicap Hurdle as he displayed sufficient stamina in his youth to win the Town Plate over 3¼ miles at Newmarket.

Finally, the presence of Monica Dickinson and Graham Bradley should put fear into the locals at Fakenham where they look poised to land a double with **A Sure Row** (2.30) and **Bobby Burns** (3.30).

● Sam Wrekin beat Flying Ace fair and square at Ayr last Saturday, but the tables could be turned on different ground at Edinburgh today (3.45).

Acarine, unpenalized for his win at Nottingham on Monday, will be strongly fancied at Fakenham (4.0), but in this instance I prefer **I Got Stung**.

SANDOWN PARK

Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 LYPHENTO (nap).
2.35 Mr Key.
3.05 Dad's Gamble.
3.40 Serious Man.
4.10 Chief Ironside.
4.40 Deep Impression.

By Michael Seely
4.10 Kamir. 4.40 HILL-STREET-BLUES (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.40 SERIOUS MAN.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

Going: good to soft (chase course); soft (hurdles)

2.0 BIRCHWOOD NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,166: 2m) (14 runners)

101	421	GILT BRONZE 41 (CD,S) (M Banks) M Banks 11-6	G McCourt	85
103	P12	LYPHENTO 13 (D,BF,S) (H Joel) J Gifford 11-4	R Rowe	● 99
106	033	BAMAR LAD 32 (R Garner) M Bolton 11-0	R Goldstein	88
110		GEBLITZT (B Pearce) J Long 11-0	C Mann	—
111		GLITZ (C Cyzer) C Cyzer 11-0	Mr T Grantham	—
113	P	ISLAND KING 56 (British Thoroughbred R & B Plc) G Balding 11-0	R Guest	—
118	04PP	ORIENTAL JADE 53 (P Lacy) G Roe 11-0	P McDermott (7)	53
124		RUN FOR FREE (R Freethy) A Turnell 11-0	S C Knight	—
125	3	RUSSIAN AFFAIR 43 (P Hodgson) R Akehurst 11-0	D McKeown	82
127	3	TAXI LAD 51 (Mrs C Davies) R Brazington 11-0	R Beggan	62
128		THE RAM (A Ennever) N Henderson 11-0	J Osborne (4)	—
130	P	TIGERS PET 181 (A Wilkinson) K Ivory 11-0	P Manning (4)	—
131		WINDMEDE (J Sayers) J Sayers 11-0	H Davies	—
135		SARA LANE (D Howarth) G Doidge 10-9	P Croucher	—

BETTING: Evens Lyphento, 3-1 The Ram, 6-1 Russian Affair, 7-1 Gilt Bronze, 16-1 Run For Free.

1987: ALONE SUCCESS 11-8 S Smith Eccles (4-7 fav) N Henderson 7 ran

FORM GILT BRONZE (11-0) beat Spaciel (11-4) 10l over course and distance (£2881, soft, Jan 9, 18 ran) with debutant LYPHENTO (11-0) pulled up.

LYPHENTO (11-4) 3l 2nd to Triumph Hurdle favourite Surf Board (10-10) over course and distance last time (£2485, heavy, Feb 6, 13 ran).

BAMAR LAD (10-10) 8¼l 3rd to Malamain (10-10) at Fontwell (2m 2f, £945, soft, Jan 18, 17 ran).
RUSSIAN AFFAIR (10-5) 3¼l 3rd to Bold King's Hussar (11-3) at Lingfield (2m, £913, heavy, Jan 7, 9 ran).
THE RAM won three times on Flat in Ireland.
Selection: LYPHENTO

2.35 MOLE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,752: 2m 18yd) (7 runners)

201	300321	PADDYBORO 20 (CD,F,G,S) (Capt F Tyrwhitt-Drake) J Gifford 10-11-10	R Rowe	95
205	22033F	BALUCHI 13 (F,G,S) (D Squire) B Preece 7-11-7	G Landau	94
207	4-2114F	MR KEY 46 (G,S) (Mrs E McManus) D Murray-Smith 7-11-3	P Croucher	93
209	140221	AKRAM 38 (F,G,S) (S Allen) R Hodges 10-10-12	W Irvine (7)	88
210	0F0433	RHOECUS 4 (S) (Mrs M Radbourne) B Smart 9-10-11	R Dunwoody	● 99
211	432-443	PAN ARCTIC 20 (G,S) (Mrs R Bill) T Bill 9-10-8	—	82
212	0-02311	TOM CAXTON 35 (G,S) (M O'Connor) J King 7-10-5	S McNeill	94

BETTING: 100-30 Mr Key 9-2 Tom Caxton, 5-1 Paddyboro, Rhoecus, 11-2 Akram, 7-1 Baluchi.

1987: SOMERLED 8-11-9 R Dunwoody (85-40 fav) R McDonald 5 ran

FORM PADDYBORO (10-1) beat Ida's Delight (10-1) 2½l at Doncaster (2m 150yd, £5472, good to soft, Jan 30, 10 ran).

BALUCHI (12-1) lest seen at best when a length 2nd to Rambling Wild (10-1) at Windsor (2m 40yd, £1670, good to soft, Nov 23, 6 ran) with TOM CAXTON (10-8) 8l 3rd.

AKRAM (11-11) made all to beat Cradle Of Jazz (11-0) 2l at Wincanton (2m, £1880, soft, Jan 14, 6 ran); previously (10-0) was a distant last of 2 finishers to Clay Hill (11-10) at Newbury (2m 150yd, heavy), a race in which MR KEY (10-8) was leading when a last fence faller.

MR KEY (10-9) best judged on a 4l defeat of Tam (10-13) at Lingfield (2m, £1921, heavy, Dec 18, 7 ran) with PADDYBORO (11-10) 23l behind in 5th and AKRAM (10-4) 3l 6th.
RHOECUS (11-4) a length 3rd to Comeragh King (12-1) at Nottingham (2m, £2692, soft, Feb 15, 9 ran).
TOM CAXTON (10-6) beat Kamir (11-8) 7l at Ascot (2m, £2992, heavy, Jan 15, 8 ran).
Selection: BALUCHI

3.5 STAND NOVICES CHASE (£3,215: 2m 4f 68yd) (11 runners)

301	00-1313	DAD'S GAMBLE 55 (G,S) (R Gilder) J Gifford 7-11-7	R Rowe	92
304	0P-0340	BALITO 60 (G) (M Marsh) D Barons 7-11-0	P Nicholls	86
305	30-0044	BIGEE 35 (F,G,S) (P Kearney) J Sayers 7-11-0	H Davies	—
306	PP0P/00	BLAZON 69 (A Newton) D Hanley 8-11-0	Mr P Verling	—
307	402F0-3	CHEEKY RUPERT 28 (F) (T Wragg) S Christian 8-11-0	R Beggan	85
308	3-242	CHIEF BUCKANEER 28 (W Whitbread) Mrs M Rimell 6-11-0	D Browne	84
310	042	MAJESTIC RING 8 (P Kelleway) P Kelleway 6-11-0	Mr A Kelleway	66
311	0-1P0	PEARLY GLEN 82 (S) (Mrs F Winter) F Winter 8-11-0	B de Haan	—
312	040443	POLAR GLEN 8 (Mrs V Phillips) R Hodges 7-11-0	W Irvine	60
313	112232	PUCKS PLACE 50 (G) (J Belfrage) N Gaselee 7-11-0	K Mooney	87
314	021422	SOUTHERNAIR 13 (G,S) (S Powell) J Jenkins 8-11-0	S Smith Eccles	● 99

BETTING: 2-1 Chief Buckaneer, 5-2 Southernair, 7-2 Dad's Gamble, 13-2 Pucks Place.

1987: DALBURY 9-11-0 G Moore (11-8 fav) A Moore 7 ran

FORM DAD'S GAMBLE (11-0) demoted to 3rd after finishing 6l 2nd to Twin Oaks (11-4) at Kempton (3m, £8091, good, Dec 26, 8 ran).
CHEEKY RUPERT (11-4) 16l 3rd to Delius (11-4) at Kempton (2m 4f, £2400, heavy, Jan 22, 9 ran).
CHIEF BUCKANEER (11-4) 3l 3rd to Bespoke (11-10) at Kempton (2m 4f, £2419, heavy, Jan 22, 8 ran).
MAJESTIC RING (11-2) 2l 2nd to Danish Flight (12-2) at Huntingdon (2m 200yd, £1839, soft, Feb 11, 15 ran) with POLAR GLEN (11-2) 6l 3rd.
PUCKS PLACE (11-4) 8l 2nd to Ballyhane (11-8) at Cheltenham (3m 1f, £3870, good to soft, Dec 31, 6 ran).
SOUTHERNAIR (11-0) 1½l 2nd to Yeoman Broker (11-0) here (2m 4f 68yd, £7440, heavy, Feb 6, 5 ran).
Selection: SOUTHERNAIR

3.40 EBF NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £3,077: 2m) (24 runners)

401	10P	HAIRY HAT 41 (S) (H Pelham) J Gifford 5-11-10	R Rowe	77
402	0P12	SADDLERS NIGHT 55 (BF,G,D) (Jet Stationery Co Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-10	M Pitman	77
405	0-21120	GREAT DESTINY 66 (BF,G,S,D) (Mrs D Bravery) C Bravery 6-11-6	H Davies	85
410	0	BARACUS 7 (A-Team Bloodstock Ltd) J Fox 5-11-0	D Tegg (7)	—
411	0	BEST SMILE 7 (Mrs C Matheson) G Enright 5-11-0	M Perrett	—
412	0-0	BOLT HEAD 112 (C Lewis) D Barons 5-11-0	P Nicholls	—
413	1-	CASHCANON 272 (F) (Mrs K Anderson) N Henderson 6-11-0	J White	—
414	2F-0403	DAWN PRINCE 13 (Unity Farm Hol Cen Ltd) P Hobbs 5-11-0	Peter Hobbs	94
416	0/	FRIMLEY 659 (D Jackson) R Armytage 7-11-0	M Bosley	—
417		GEE UP (K Mackenzie) A Turnell 5-11-0	I Lawrence (7)	—
420		KATABATIC (R Gilder) A Turnell 5-11-0	S C Knight	—
422	0-04000	LE MODESTY 51 (R Smale) A Moore 6-11-0	G Moore	73
424	22-0	POLYFEMUS 13 (G Johnson) N Henderson 6-11-0	S Smith Eccles	94
426		ROARS OF APPLAUSE (C Sporborg) D Ringer 6-11-0	—	—
427	00	ROSY PROSPECT 49 (H Joel) D Nicholson 5-11-0	R Dunwoody	79
428	3P-0	ROYAL BATTERY 36 (R Cottel) D Barons 5-11-0	P Nicholls	—
429	000	SAMMY THE SHAMMY 60 (D Badham) J Jenkins 5-11-0	—	—
431	32	SERIOUS MAN 13 (J Musson) D Grissell 5-11-0	R Goldstein	● 99
432		SHORT LIST (M Pinto) J Gifford 5-11-0	E Murphy	—
434	00	SUNDAY FOR MONDAY 27 (R Evans) S Christian 5-11-0	R Beggan	—
437	030424	TUNS HILL 7 (B Eacott) R Dickin 6-11-0	M Jones (7)	87
439	FP0F	WOT NO SEAL 13 (Mrs S Gladwin) J Long 7-11-0	C Mann	—
442	00F-020	JANE CRAIG 50 (S Griffiths) S Griffiths 5-10-9	Mr M Richards (4)	79
443	03	KIRI'S SONG 74 (J Needham) J Needham 5-10-9	—	71

BETTING: 5-2 Polyfemus, 5-1 Serious Man, 11-2 Saddlers Night, 7-1 Great Destiny.

1987: COMMANDANTE 5-11-0 E Murphy (6-11 fav) J Gifford 18 ran

FORM SADDLERS NIGHT (11-7) 3l 2nd to Nick The Brief (10-10) at Huntingdon (2m 4f, £1069, good to soft, Dec 26, 13 ran) last time.
GREAT DESTINY (11-3) a length 2nd to Deep Treasure (11-0) over course and distance (£3298, good, Dec 4, 17 ran) on penultimate start.
POLYFEMUS (11-0) a neck 2nd to Cantord Palm (11-4) over course and distance last season (£1964, good, Mar 13, 12 ran).
SERIOUS MAN (11-0) 8l 2nd to Relekto (11-0) last time over course and distance (£4438, heavy, Feb 6, 24 ran) with DAWN PRINCE (11-0) 5l 3rd.
POLYFEMUS (11-0) unplaced and WOT NO SEAL (11-0) fell 4th when in rear.
KIRI'S SONG (10-9) 10½l 3rd to Taylormade Boy (11-0) at Catterick (2m, £960, good, Dec 7, 21 ran).
Selection: SERIOUS MAN

4.10 STANLEY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,282: 3m 118yd) (10 runners)

502	33-343P	BROADHEATH 83 (F,G,S) (M Marsh) D Barons 11-11-10	P Nicholls	96
503	2F10-1P	TORSIDE 53 (S) (C G Bisgrove Ltd) M Pipe 9-11-6	M Perrett	92
508	03001F	MEMBERSON 13 (CD,F,G,S) (P Dufosee) P Dufosee 10-11-0	R Bellamy (7)	95
509	P/310-FP	CHIEF IRONSIDE 13 (C,G) (H Joel) J Gifford 8-10-13	R Rowe	● 98
511	03-1121	KAMIR 21 (F,G,S) (F Brown) K Morgan 8-10-4	J Osborne (4)	94
512	1-0P311	BLUE DART 43 (C,G,S) (H Padfield) T Forster 8-10-4	H Davies	92
513	3/11102-	BACKSTREET GUY 300 (CD,F,G,S) (J Johnson) N Henderson 9-10-4	J White	95
514	02-2022	LEWESDON PRINCE 27 (BF,F,S) (T Frost) P Hobbs 11-10-2	R Beggan	98
519	11-01P3	WOODSIDE ROAD 59 (F,G,S) (Prowting Plc) D Nicholson 8-10-0	R Dunwoody	92
520	P04-001	A BOY NAMED SIOUX 51 (F,G,S) (S Stevens) S Stevens 8-10-0	P Croucher	93

BETTING: 3-1 Kamir, 100-30 Lewesdon Prince, 4-1 Chief Ironside, 5-1 Backstreet Guy, 8-1 Blue Dart.

1987: CATCH PHRASE 9-11-8 R Rowe (11-4 fav) J Gifford 8 ran

FORM TORSIDE (10-0) pulled up behind Playschool (10-11) at Chepstow (3m 6f, £21091, soft, Dec 28, 13 ran).
MEMBERSON (10-1) best judged on a 6l defeat of Knock Hill (10-7) at Cheltenham (4m, £4815, good to soft, Jan 1, 7 ran).
KAMIR (10-7) beat Alten Glazed (11-11) 4l at Ayr (2m 4f, £2305, soft, Jan 29, 3 ran).
BLUE DART (11-9) beat Mearlin (10-1) 2l at Lingfield (3m, £2541, heavy, Jan 7, 6 ran).
BACKSTREET GUY (10-7) 4l 2nd to Star Of Screen (10-7) at Bangor (3m, £5150, good to firm, Apr 25, 10 ran).
LEWESDON PRINCE (11-9) 1½l 2nd to Fell Climb (11-0) at Kempton (3m, £3870, heavy, Jan 23, 4 ran).
Selection: LEWESDON PRINCE

4.40 GLADYS BARKER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,128: 2m 5f 75yd) (16 runners)

602	0-40140	MY DOMINION 20 (F,G,S) (S M Dem Ltd) W Kemp 6-11-11	T Storrar (7)	93
606	F2B231	HILL-STREET-BLUES 13 (C,D,F,S) (L Marsh) J Fox 10-11-5 (4ex)	D Tegg	96
607	3F34/30	DEEP IMPRESSION 62 (G,S) (N Mills) N Gaselee 9-11-1	A Adams	89
610	00/2-001	TANTE MARIE 55 (S) (Mrs M Brubaker) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-11	W O'Callaghan (7)	82
612	121	HEYFLEET 30 (S) (Mrs R Allen) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-9	J Leech (7)	● 99
618	000-0	REDMARLEY 31 (G) (Mrs E Weinstein) G Balding 6-10-0	A Charlton	80
619	1001-00	DOMINATE 30 (F) (Mrs B Gonsalves) A Gonsalves 7-10-0	A Mulholland (5)	—
623	00-0304	FRED THE TREAD 9 (G Greenwood) T Casey 6-10-0	J Osborne	91
625	0PP/PPP	SHROPSHIRE LAD 55 (B,C,F) (E Parker) D Barons 6-10-0	N Hawke (7)	—
628	0P0000	RHODE ISLAND RED 27 (F,S) (J Bruton) A Moore 5-10-0	J Clarke (7)	79
629	00-R2F0	ROYAL DUCHY 67 (C Roach) C Roach 6-10-0	D Aldershaw (7)	76
630	00-4UFP	LING 30 (G,S) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 10-10-0	G Colbert (7)	—
631	00000-0	GRECIAN BUST 30 (D Hodges) P Hobbs 5-10-0	—	—
633	034000-	SHIELDAIG 305 (B) (Mrs T Dance) J Bridger 7-10-0	T Cooney (7)	74
634	U/P-000	MINI-MISS 30 (Mrs H Dowson) Mrs H Dowson 7-10-0	R Milner (7)	—
635	P-P000P	FAIDROS 29 (Mac's Garage Ltd) J Old 7-10-0	P Davies (7)	—

BETTING: 2-1 Heyfleet, 100-30 Deep Impression, 9-2 My Dominion, 5-1 Hill-Street-Blues, 9-1 Fred The Tread.

1987: HOORAH HENRY 7-11-0 L Harvey (7-2) J Sayers 17 ran

FORM MY DOMINION (11-2) 17½l 6th to Jimbalou (10-6) at Doncaster (2m 4f, £3296, soft, Jan 30, 21 run).
HILL-STREET-BLUES (10-2) beat Ruby Flight (10-12) ¾l here (2m 5f 75yd, £9741, heavy, Feb 6, 17 ran).
DEEP IMPRESSION (11-5) 8½l 5th to The Processor (10-10) at Ascot (2m 4f, £3112, good to soft, Dec 19, 23 ran) with MY DOMINION (11-10) 8th and RHODE ISLAND RED (10-2) out of the first ten.
TANTE MARIE (10-9) beat Lover Bill (11-0) 12l at Huntingdon (2m 4f, £1081, good to soft, Dec 26, 17 ran).
HEYFLEET (11-10) beat I'll Do The Jokes (11-0) 2l at Windsor (2m 30yd, £1973, soft, Jan 20, 22 ran).
FRED THE TREAD (10-2) 9l 4th to Record Dancer (10-0) at Ascot (2m 4f, £2894, heavy, Feb 10, 29 ran).
Selection: DEEP IMPRESSION

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
D Murray-Smith	5	16	31.3
Mrs M Rimell	3	11	27.3
T Forster	12	45	26.7
Mrs J Pitman	9	43	20.9
N Henderson	11	56	19.6
F Winter	17	88	19.3

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
S Smith Eccles	18	69	26.1
G Landau	4	16	25.0
E Murphy	7	30	23.3
D Browne	3	14	21.4
R Dunwoody	14	80	17.5
R Rowe	18	106	17.0

EDINBURGH

Selections

By Mandarin

1.15 Pyjamas.
1.45 Mizaj.
2.15 Brigarona.
2.45 Bushido.
3.15 Terebinth.
3.45 Flying Ace.
4.15 Mineral Dust.
4.45 Pantomime Prince.

Going: good to firm (chase course); good (hurdles)

1.15 HOWGATE NOVICES CHASE (£980: 2m) (14 runners)

2	2UP2P1	FOLLY HILL 25 (C,G) (I Simpson) Mrs G Reveley 8-11-12	P Niven	● 99
6	00000P	CROFTON PARK 28 (V) (Mrs E Dixon) J Dixon 7-11-5	K Doolan	—
7	00-0000	DOCTOR CHESNE 21 (R Robson) W McGhie 6-11-5	J J Quinn	—
10	F0F340	KILLARY BAY 34 (V,F,G) (D Marshall) K Stone 6-11-5	C Hawkins	95
11	403004	MELROSE 25 (J Robinson) J Robinson 9-11-5	Mr R Robinson	—
12	002PFP	MILLSTREAK 7 (Mrs D Culham) Mrs D Culham 8-11-5	A Orkney	86
13	40-0032	PYJAMAS 43 (BF) (Mrs D Whitaker) G Richards 7-11-5	P Tuck	—
14	0000U0	RAPIDAN 14 (E Halliday) J Parkes 7-11-5	S Cunningham (7)	—
15	4204F/P	SIDVIC 35 (C Colquhoun) R Woodhouse 9-11-5	B Ellison	—
16	304420	SPECIAL SETTLEMENT 35 (S) (T Beaty) R Allan 7-11-5	D Nolan	—
17	0-00000	TACTICO 63 (I Dalgleish) W Fairgrieve 6-11-5	J Hansen	—
18	040004	ANNIE RA 55 (S) (Mrs E Bevan) B Preece 6-11-0	Mr R Bevan (7)	—
19	0/03-004	MILLIE GREY 43 (F,G) (Mrs H Calzini) J Charlton 8-11-0	B Storey	—
20	004-P03	WAVE GOODBYE 37 (S) (J Hickie) J Wilson 5-10-10	M Bowlby	—

BETTING: 11-10 Folly Hill, 3-1 Pyjamas, 5-1 Millie Grey, 8-1 Killary Bay, 14-1 Melrose, 20-1 others.

1987: WORTHY KNIGHT 6-11-5 B Storey 18-1 B McLean 15 ran

1.45 SEAGRAM 100 PIPERS CHAMPIONSHIP NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: 4-Y-O: £1,963: 2m) (13 runners)

2	0210	HOCKLEY 20 (CD,S) (R Jeffreys) G Richards 11-6	P Tuck	84
4	0P1	MIZAJ 28 (S) (W Marshall) G Moore 11-6	M Hammond	93
6	111110	RIVERS SECRET 111 (BF,D,F,G,S) (J Simpson) Denys Smith 11-4	R Marley (4)	● 99
10		BE MY PROSPECT (R Ross) Miss M Bell 11-0	B Storey	—
11	2	BEN LEDI 32 (G Davidson) J J O'Neill 11-0	M Dwyer	91
12		BOBBIE STACK (I Dalgleish) W Fairgrieve 11-0	J Hansen	—
13	000400	ENTIRE 21 (W Monteith) P Monteith 11-0	D Nolan	—
15	20	LAOCHAIL 20 (A Guy) J Norton 11-0	S Woods (4)	86
16	0000F3	LOTTIE'S FURY 28 (P Piller) W A Stephenson 11-0	C Grant	86
16	0P	RED PROCESSION 20 (I Sykes) P Liddle 11-0	M Pepper	58
24	0000	NATURALLY AUTUMN 28 (A Boocock) R Barr 10-9	C Dennis (7)	66
25	00	NEEDWOOD NYMPH 6 (Needwood Turf Acco Ltd) B Morgan 10-9	C Prince (7)	80
26		NOBLE PROSPECT (S Tonge) P Charlton 10-9	J J Quinn	—

BETTING: 9-4 Rivers Secret, 5-2 Mizaj, 9-2 Hockley, 6-1 Ben Ledi, 10-1 Laochail, Lotties Fury.

1987: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

2.15 KILMANY CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£1,238: 3m) (7 runners)

1	1F23P2	OAKEN 25 (D,F,G) (Duke of Sutherland) Denys Smith 7-11-10	M Dwyer	94
2	13FU-42	TARGET MAN 43 (D,F,G,S) (M Britton Ltd) W A Stephenson 8-11-7	C Grant	96
3	0F-3111	BORDER RAMBLER 50 (F,G,S) (R Tyrer) G Richards 8-11-0	P Tuck	92
5	0P1-131	BRIGARONA 35 (CD,F,G,S) (A Flannigan) Mrs G Reveley 7-10-12	P Niven	91
6	1-01432	CROWECOPPER 30 (D,F,S) (J A D Eng Ltd) B Preece 9-10-9	Mr R Bevan (7)	97
9	02012-3	TASAR 26 (F,G) (Charlotte Lady Reay) W A Stephenson 7-10-0	A Merrigan (4)	96
10	32-0002	THE HOWLET 55 (F,G,S) (W Wilson) K Oliver 9-10-0	J Kinane	● 99

BETTING: 5-2 Target Man, 7-2 Border Rambler, 9-2 Crowecopper, 6-1 Brigarona, 15-2 Oaken.

1987: BLUE TARQUIN 8-11-5 J Quinn (2-1 fav) J G Fitzgerald 8 ran

2.45 100 PIPERS HANDICAP HURDLE (£938: 3m) (17 runners)

1	0F0-40F	KRISTENSON 35 (F,G,S) (J Coward) R Fisher 11-11-0	R Hodge (7)	93
2	211-100	RAPIER THRUST 82 (F,G,S) (R White) J G FitzGerald 6-11-8	M Dwyer	97
4	340-000	SCARLET TERROR 74 (F,S) (R Brewis) R Brewis 10-10-11	G Harker	—
5	0-40F40	RYECROFT 82 (G,S) (Mrs K Rae) N Tinkler 10-10-11	B Ellison	—
7	000002	HARBOUR BAZAAR 53 (G,S) (T Caldwell) T Caldwell 8-10-8	Peter Caldwell (7)	92
8	444113	RAISABILLION 20 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs S Blane) G Moore 6-10-8	M Hammond	93
10	00-1110	LOTHIAN ADMIRAL 20 (D,S) (W Morrison) G Richards 6-10-4	P Tuck	93
12	01/-0000	LITTLE MITTENS 34 (D,F) (C Thomson) R Barr 10-10-0	—	88
14	2-00412	BUSHIDO 7 (S) (G Boitakis) J S Wilson 5-10-0	M Bowlby	● 99
16	0023F4	AMBERGATE 52 (D,F) (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 7-10-0	C Grant	87
18	006344	POLITICAL PROSPECT 36 (J Goodfellow) Mrs J Goodfellow 6-10-0	C Dennis (7)	82
19	000433	ETHELS COURSE 35 (S) (L O B Bloodstock Ltd) D Moffatt 6-10-0	P Harte (7)	82
20	4/02F0P-	WIL-TOT 332 (B,D,F,S) (J Norton) J Norton 11-10-0	N Smith (7)	89
21	0PP002-	MITILINI 270 (S) (R Zebedee) B Preece 8-10-0	Mr R Bevan (7)	73
26	000	ADEN ROYALE 49 (J Sim) T Craig 5-10-0	R Marley (4)	—
27	004P00	OVERTON LASS 25 (W Young) W Young 8-10-0	A Merrigan (4)	—
28	0000-00	TRADING PLACES 43 (J Beck) J Beck 7-10-0	S Turner (7)	—

BETTING: 9-4 Rapier Thrust, 11-4 Raisabillion, 11-2 Bushido, 13-2 Lothian Admiral, 8-1 Harbour Bazaar.

1987: SMART JACK 6-10-11 M Meagher (11-10 fav) R Fisher 10 ran

3.15 WEST LINTON NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,245: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

10	334P2	HI WALLIE 25 (S) (Mrs V Watson) Miss M Bell 6-11-10	B Storey	95
11	2-0202P	STROMAR 7 (E Kennedy) J S Wilson 6-11-10	M Bowlby	94
12	00-F001	COPPER STREAK 25 (CD,S) (Lord Cadogan) N Crump 6-11-10	C Hawkins	92
13	313030	CASUAL PASS 7 (B,S) (D Little) G Richards 5-11-9	P Tuck	94
14	000-401	BALMBICELLO 25 (C,S) (R Bainbridge) R Bainbridge 6-11-4	S Turner (7)	95
15	00000	LIGHTFALL 14 (A Munro Ltd) R Allan 4-11-3	G Lyons	88
16	3P0140	ALBION PLACE 14 (B,S) (J Hepburn) A D Brown 4-11-2	D Dutton	86
17	440-2B3	ECHO BEACH 7 (Denys Smith) Denys Smith 7-11-1	A Merrigan (4)	96
19	00P040	TREBONKERS 35 (Mrs C Richard) T Craig 7-11-0	R Marley (4)	91
21	0-2UP03	D'OR'S GEM 21 (B Wine) P Blockley 5-10-13	Jessica Charles-Jones (7)	92
23	00-04F0	SUMMER MEADOWS 25 (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-10-11	C Grant	80
24	00023	TEREBINTH 25 (BF) (J Herdman) J Charlton 5-10-10	C Dennis (7)	● 99
25	03/0	FAST FORWARD 31 (T Caldwell) T Caldwell 7-10-9	Peter Caldwell (7)	—
26	002003	BALINGLANCE 25 (B) (R Layland) R Layland 6-10-8	J D Davies (4)	87
27	0030/	QUEENS MAN 579 (H Bousfield) Mrs G Reveley 6-10-8	P Niven	—

BETTING: 11-4 Hi Wallie, 7-2 Copper Streak, 4-1 Stromar, 5-1 Casual Pass, 8-1 Balmbicello.

1987: GREED 6-10-7 C Grant (8-1) Denys Smith 14 ran

3.45 FIFE HUNT CLUB CUP HUNTER CHASE (£680: 3m) (12 runners)

1	21112-2	FLYING ACE 6 (CD,F,S) (A Calder) A Calder 12-12-7	Miss D Calder (7)	● 99
2	F220/4-1	SAM WREKIN 6 (D,G,S) (R Thomson) Miss M Bell 10-12-7	A Costello (7)	98
3	0004/	BEECHWOOD SAILOR 661 (P Spottiswood) P Spottiswood 7-12-0	J Walton	—
4	P3030-P	BENTOM BOY 6 (F,G,S) (Maj M Sample) M Sample 13-12-0	C Sample (4)	96
5	200140/	BLUEBIRDINO 653 (G,S) (Miss B Haworth) Miss B Haworth 9-12-0	J Grassick (7)	—
6	P3P-P30	COUNT BLYTHE 148 (A Crow) A Crow 10-12-0	R Bartlett (7)	—
7		GOLDEN KIT (T Robson) T Robson 7-12-0	Miss R Lock (7)	—
8	043-0UP	PENEGYRIST 6 (C Alexander) C Alexander 13-12-0	D Mactaggart (7)	—
9	UP0/P0-	SWEET FRANK 272 (Mrs P Cookson) Mrs P Cookson 13-12-0	A Robson (7)	—
10	24PPFP/	TWIFLIGHT 652 (D,F,G,S) (Miss C Dawson) Miss C Dawson 13-12-0	Mrs V Jackson (7)	—
11	U204/P0-	WORK MATE 420 (F,G) (Mrs J Smith) Mrs J Smith 9-12-0	J Bradburne (7)	—
12	F/22-	MYSTIC MUSIC 300 (Miss H Wilson) Miss H Wilson 9-11-9	K Anderson (7)	85

BETTING: 5-4 Flying Ace, 9-4 Sam Wrekin, 11-2 Mystic Music, 8-1 Bentom Boy, 14-1 Panegyrist.

1987: FLYING ACE 11-12-0 Miss C Calder (11-8) A Calder 9 ran

4.15 LEADBURN NH FLAT RACE (Div I: £685: 2m) (14 runners)

1		DUNBAR LAD (T Craig) T Craig 5-11-10	B Hay (7)	—
5	0B	JAY'AY'DEE 134 (J A D Engineering Ltd) B Preece 5-11-10	Mr R Bevan (7)	—
7		LINLITHGOW PALACE (Mrs C Crow) A Crow 6-11-10	Mr A Crow	—
8	3	MINERAL DUST 43 (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-10	J Dillon (7)	—
9		MOSHUGANAGH (R Morrow) R Fisher 6-11-10	G Morrow (7)	—
11		ORIEL BOY (C Bell) C Bell 5-11-10	S Bell (7)	—
15		THE ANTARTEX (Edinburgh Woollen Mill Ltd) G Richards 5-11-10	J R Quinn (7)	—
19		ELLASPRINGS (H Lambert) J FitzGerald 5-11-5	C Wilson (7)	—
21	0	MYSTERY'S NIECE 20 (R Layland) R Layland 5-11-5	T White (7)	—
25		RYE BRIDGE (E Houlston) K Stone 5-11-5	D Byrne (7)	—
30		LOCKINGE (P Muldoon) S Muldoon 4-11-0	R Fahey (7)	—
34		BEA BA BABBITY (D McGarva) D McGarva 4-10-9	S Cunningham (7)	—
36		FORALLOVUS (Mrs D Thomson) Mrs D Thomson 4-10-9	Mrs C Crow	—
38		RIVER CLARE (J Pirie) J Gillen 4-10-9	G Lyons (7)	—

BETTING: 6-4 Mineral Dust, 3-1 Moshuganagh, 6-1 Mystery's Niece, 8-1 The Antartex, Ellasprings.

1987: HEAVENLY BROTHER 4-10-10 Mr M Armytage (13-2) C Thornton 14 ran

4.45 LEADBURN NH FLAT RACE (Div II: £685: 2m) (14 runners)

2		FISHERS ISLAND (N Bannister) N Crump 5-11-10	P Harte (7)	—
3	00	HUNTER BUOY 37 (M O'Connor) J J O'Neill 5-11-10	Mr N Kelleher (7)	—
6	0	JIM'S TOP 111 (R Haggas) J FitzGerald 5-11-10	J Hayes (7)	—
12	23	PANTOMIME PRINCE 37 (BF) (P Gargon) C Thornton 5-11-10	S Turner (7)	—
14		SWALLOWMATIC (W A Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-10	A Merrigan (4)	—
17		CARRYCOTT (R Norton) B Morgan 6-11-5	C Prince (7)	—
20		MASKIN (J McLaren) J S Wilson 5-11-5	Mr J McLaren	—
22		NICHOLCONE (Mrs P Nicholson) J FitzGerald 5-11-5	D Byrne (7)	—
31	20	MR FENWICK 20 (F Storey) F Storey 4-11-0	G Lyons (7)	—
32		ROYAL BANK AIR (A Cloggie) P Daly 4-11-0	—	—
37		HIGHRYMER (Mrs J Brockbank) J Brockbank 4-10-9	J Beardsall	—
39		ROYAL JENNY (Mrs A Wauchope) R McDonald 4-10-9	A Stanford (7)	—
41	0	WAR MADNESS 43 (R Harland) Mrs G Reveley 4-10-9	N Smith (7)	—
42	00	WIDOW TRELLERNE 37 (Mrs M Lamb) D Lamb 4-10-9	Miss G Smalley	—

BETTING: 15-8 Pantomime Prince, 9-4 Nicholcone, 5-1 War Madness, 6-1 Hunter Buoy, 10-1 Jim's Top.

1987: HEAVENLY BROTHER 4-10-10 Mr M Armytage (13-2) C Thornton 14 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
C Thornton	1	1	100.0
A Calder	1	1	100.0
R Bainbridge	1	1	100.0
Denys Smith	4	11	36.4
P Blockley	2	8	25.0
G Moore	3	12	25.0

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
Miss D Calder	1	1	100.0
Jessica C-Jones	1	1	100.0
A Orkney	1	1	100.0
S Turner	1	2	50.0
Mr J Bradburne	1	3	33.3
C Grant	7	28	25.0

POINT-TO-POINT

Talent for improvement the hallmark of a Welsh wizard

By Brian Beel

Sea Express (Philip Mathias) on his way to victory in *The Times* Championshp final at Towcester last May for Lavis

Bert Lavis has a way with animals. All his life he has been associated with horses, but for a time in the Midlands during the 'Sixties he turned his attention to greyhounds.

In his youth at home in Pembrokeshire he had trained dogs, so on moving to the urban surroundings of Birmingham, where he lost the opportunity for working with horses, it was natural for his interest to be concentrated on this popular local sport.

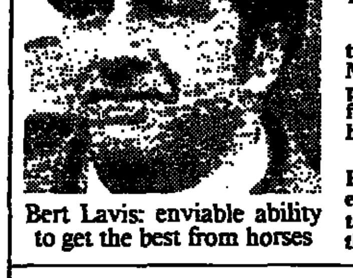
The result was a string of successes at Kings Heath and the neighbouring tracks with puppies he bought in Ireland. "But," he says wistfully, "the ever-present call to return to my beloved Wales was soon answered." Thus began his career of training point-to-pointers.

Success did not come easy for him at the start but the former chaser Lifeboat, who had run under Rules for the Queen Mother, changed his luck and, at Lydstep, provided him with his first winner.

Other victories began to follow and Lavis soon earned the reputation of being able to "straighten out" difficult horses. The most recent example of was, of course, Sea Express, the winner of *The Times* Championship final at Towcester last season.

Commenting on the performance of Sea Express when he raced in Sussex in 1986, Iain Mackenzie, in the *Point-to-Point Annual*, wrote: "Sea Express looked loopy on his intended debut (withdrawn after rearing over backwards and squashing the rider). Late at the start and unseated at the first (unruly in the paddock and reluctant to go down). Will hopefully never be seen again."

A year later, after a reformed Sea Express had won three of his four races, the comment had become a glowing: "Looked loopy in his previous stable but was as good as gold for the Welsh wizard Bert Lavis."



Bert Lavis: enviable ability to get the best from horses

Philip Mathias rode Sea Express on each occasion, the Welsh and former National champion, John Llewellyn, having respectfully declined when Lavis told him of his previous reputation. Llewellyn has since admitted his mistake. "Unlike many other owners," he told me, "when Bert Lavis says a horse is right, it's right."

Llewellyn, however, has been associated with many of the stable's major successes and has won for Lavis on Beau Hawke at both Newbury and Sandown Park and on Mr Silver at Hereford.

Autumn and winter are busy times for Lavis and his wife, Mair, with all the point-to-pointers, now numbering 12 from 10 different owners, all having to qualify out hunting

Their youngest daughter, Heather, who has had considerable success in the show ring, takes an active part in this with the Pembrokeshire and Carmarthen Hunts. She has had several rides in point-to-points and been placed, but is still looking for her first winner, which, hopefully, will come this season on either Broughty Pier or Glen Maye.

Sea Express is now back at work after a minor set-back. He is still being aimed at Cheltenham, but not the festival meeting. His first race is likely to be at Lydstep in the Land Rover qualifier, where being placed in the first three would allow him to take his chance in the final at Cheltenham in May.

Three of Lavis' horses, Johnny Jay (running tomorrow at Erw Lon), Royal Enigma and Atlantic Swell, will all be aimed at qualifying for *The Times* race at Towcester in May if they come up to expectations in early season maiden races.

As a long-term ambition Lavis hopes to win a Gold Cup — "Any will do" — but more realistically he and his wife share the same hope for the future, "that our grandchildren will have as much fun from the sport as we have had."

FAKENHAM

Selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Royal Special. 2.30 A Sure Row. 3.0 Wolfhangar. 3.30 Bobby Burns. 4.0 Acarine. 4.30 Ewe Lamb.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.30 A Sure Row.

Going: soft

2.0 SHERINGHAM SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,237: 2m 80yd) (17 runners)

5	PPP0	FOUR FOR UNCLE 49 (B,F,G) I Campbell 6-11-10	R Campbell
13	30-P	HAJ 36 A Fisher 5-11-3	D Fisher
17	0240	SWEET ROSA 8 P Howling 6-10-13	R Crank
18	03F0	MISS BRANTRIDGE 32 (F) A Moore 6-10-13	W Morris
20	0000	PROMENADER 172 C Trietline 5-10-11	W Humphreys (4)
22	30-P	STAR OF TARA 8 (B) R Thompson 5-10-10	B Powell
23	P00D	ROYAL SPECIAL 36 (B) Mrs A Knight 4-10-10	G Knight
26	-000	SPRING WIGEON 49 D Wintle 5-10-8	A Carroll
28	4FF0	USELESS MEMBER 49 A Moore 6-10-8	Candy Moore (4)
29	0P00	LAURAS FANDANGO 3 J Bukovets 4-10-8	S Cusack (7)
30	0P-0	JUBILEE JAMBOREE 116 J Scallan 5-10-8	M Furlong
31	020	DOHTY BABY 30 R Thompson 4-10-8	A Webb
32	0400	PODSNAP 29 J Pearce 5-10-8	J McLaughlin
33	0000-	MR MCGREGOR 416 H O'Neill 6-10-8	D Gallagher (4)
34	P-0F	PEADAR'S STROKE 55 G Gracey 6-10-8	J Duggan
36	00P	BOOFY 52 (B) J Long 5-10-8	NON RUNNER
37	0-0F	SHARSEAL 52 D A Wilson 6-10-8	D Murphy

9-2 Sweet Rosa, 6-1 Dohty Baby, Miss Brantridge, 8-1 Four For Uncle, 10-1 Useless Member, Royal Special.

2.30 SANDRINGHAM HANDICAP CHASE (£2,085: 3m) (6)

3	1/33-	A SURE ROW 424 (F,G,S) Mrs M Dickinson 9-11-10	G Bradley
4	4111	FORESTDALE 154 (D,F,G) C Wates 10-11-8	G Mernagh
5	-010	TROUVERE 35 (CD,G,S) D Wintle 7-11-1	A Carroll
11	P0-0	TURN BLUE 116 (CD,F,G,S) R Champion 9-10-0	B Powell
12	0F/P	TAR KNIGHT 29 (CD,F,G) M Skinner 11-10-0	L Wyer
16	F400	CAPTAIN LOWE 32 (F) P Howling 6-10-0	R Crank

BETTING: 6-4 A Sure Row, 7-4 Forestdale, 9-2 Trouvere, 7-1 Turn Blue, 20-1 Tar Knight, 50-1 Captain Lowe.

3.0 EBF NOVICES HURDLE (£1,077: 2m 80yd) (13)

1	1110	ORATORIO 104 (D,F,G,S) I Wardle 5-11-10	M Williams
2	-012	SHOON WIND 14 (S) R Scholey 5-11-10	L Wyer
3	0100	WOLFHANGAR 20 (G) F Winter 5-11-10	S Sherwood
4	P000	ABBEY BRAVE 51 C Trietline 5-11-0	W Humphreys (4)
5	-00	BLUE MARBLE 27 G Hubbard 6-11-0	R Supple (7)
6	F40P	BREENAMORE 31 W Kemp 6-11-0	S Shilston
10	0-FR	IRON GENERAL 29 M Skinner 7-11-0	G Bradley
12	F0	KELSALE 8 G Hubbard 5-11-0	—
15	P-04	SOME PANIC 59 P Davis 6-11-0	M Bowlby
20		GOLDEN BLONDIE J Scallan 5-10-9	Miss J Hodge (7)
21		MISS HANNINGFIELD J Scallan 7-10-9	Mr S Cowell (7)
23	0	SCRAMBIRD 111 Mrs D Haine 6-10-9	G Mernagh
25	0P	SILVER CIRRUS 94 M Skinner 6-10-9	—

2-1 Wolfhangar, 7-2 Shoon Wind, 4-1 Oratorio, 8-1 Some Panic, 12-1 Breenamore, 14-1 Iron General, 20-1 Blue Marble.

3.30 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE (£1,657: 3m) (14)

1	2P10	MET OFFICER 6 (G,S) M Skinner 8-11-0	L Wyer
2	-U1F	BOBBY BURNS 98 (BF,F,G) Mrs M Dickinson 7-11-3	G Bradley
5	3000	AH HELLO 55 J Jenkins 7-10-10	S Sherwood
7	PP33	COUNT FREDERICK 51 (F) S Dow 8-10-10	J Duggan
8	2PP-	DANGEROUS GAME 307 R Champion 9-10-10	B Powell
11	U234	HALLO MATEY 28 (B) G Hubbard 7-10-10	R Supple (7)
13	0/	JUST ROSEBERRY 664 R Champion 8-10-10	M Richards
15	3/3P-	LAKEFIELD 415 J Bukovets 9-10-10	R Stronge
18	0/24	PERROQUET 98 (BF) G Vergette 8-10-10	Mrs H Vergette
19	0	PURSTON STAR 6 Mrs A Knight 8-10-10	G Knight
21	P/PP	SCALDARA 50 H O'Neill 8-10-10	M Williams
22		SWORD EDGE 655 H O'Neill 11-1010	D Gallagher (4)
24	000	CHARLOTTE BONNIE 56 J Parkvert 7-10-5	A Webb
25	0/00	RUTH'S RIVER 21 R Champion 7-10-5	Lorna Vincent

7-4 Bobby Burns, 4-1 Met Officer, 9-2 Parroquet, 8-1 Hallo Matey, 10-1 Ah Hello, 16-1 Dangerous Game, Count Frederick.

4.0 WALTER WALES HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,613: 2m 5f 110yd) (11)

4	10P0	PRYDEL 134 (B,F) R Champion 10-12-6	S Bullard (7)
5	1PU-	CORKED 270 (C,F,G) Mrs A Villar 9-12-2	P Harding-Jones (7)
7	-221	ACARINE 4 (CD,F,G,S) P Harris 12-11-0	M Armytage (4)
8	PF-0	BASIL'S CHOICE 8 (G,S) Mrs J Curson 13-11-0	M Curson (7)
10		CAPTOGAN Mrs P Hall 9-11-10	W Wales (7)
12	1/1-	I GOT STUNG 372 (D,F,G,S) J Delahooke 8-11-10	A Hill
17	U30-	POYNTZ PASS 265 (F,G,S) B Munro-Wilson 13-11-10	—
18	/12-	SHARAGAIN 270 (G) J Turner 10-11-10	D Turner
19	20F-	STAND BACK 310 (F,G,S) D Bloor 11-11-10	D Bloor (7)
20	PP0-	SUPER BRAT 270 (C,F,G) O Vaughan-Jones 9-11-10	O Vaughan-Jones (7)
21	0PP/	TALLYRAND 645 (F,S) Mrs S McDonald 9-11-10	S Andrews (7)

5-4 Acarine, 3-1 I Got Stung, 12-1 Poyntz Pass, 16-1 Shargain, Corked, 33-1 others.

4.30 CROMER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,250: 2m 80yd) (17)

4	P000	TRUST THE IRISH 27 (S) H O'Neill 7-11-10	D Gallagher (4)
6	0P1-	CRIMSON BOLD 414 (S) J Jenkins 6-11-9	S Sherwood
7	22F0	MANHATTAN BOY 8 (F,G,S) J Ffitch-Heyes 6-11-5	Penny Ffitch-Heyes (4)
9	230U	CORAL HARBOUR 20 (CD,F,G) I Wardle 6-11-4	M Williams
10	-000	BLACK RIVER 21 (S) P Davis 7-11-3	M Bowlby
12	3033	SEA PENNANT 38 (F,S) I Jones 12-11-3	V Kennedy (7)
13	-P0P	MOUNT AVENUE 49 (S) D Thom 6-11-0	M Brennan
14	3003	THE DIPLOMAT 33 (F,G,S) W Kemp 10-10-11	S Shilston
16	0003	RUSTY LAW 81 M Banks 6-10-7	D Skyrme (7)
17	0343	PRINCEABLE LADY 22 (S) N Gaselee 4-10-6	B Powell
18	1-03	EWE LAMB 30 (G) Mrs P Sly 7-10-6	M Bastard
19	1-00	MY MYRA 8 (G) B Richmond 6-10-5	P Corrigan
20	P01-	SIR HUMPHREY 305 (F) I Campbell 8-10-4	R Campbell
21	0-14	MISS ME NOT 51 (F) B Wise 6-10-4	M Furlong
23	3003	HENRY GEARY STEELS 63 (S) R Champion 8-10-1	Lorna Vincent
25	000	HAY STREET 30 R Champion 7-10-0	M Richards
27	B4-0	TUNKIN 55 (F) J Scallan 6-10-0	Miss J Hodge (7)

5-1 Rusty Law, 11-2 Princeable Lady, 13-2 Coral Harbour, 15-2 Ewe Lamb, 10-1 Miss Me Not, Henry Geary Steels.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: Mrs D Haine, 4 winners from 8 runners, 50.0%; Mrs M Dickinson, 3 from 7, 42.9%; D Wintle, 5 from 17, 29.4%; W Kemp, 5 from 36, 13.9%. (Only qualifiers).
JOCKEYS: A Carroll, 9 winners from 25 rides, 36.0%; Mr S Andrews, 6 from 26, 23.1%; S.Sherwood, 3 from 16, 18.8%. (Only qualifiers)

Bonanza Boy fails

Bonanza Boy, an apparent racing certainty at Taunton yesterday, jumped badly and failed miserably at 5-2 on in the Bet With Tote Novices' Chase. The race went to the 50-1 outsider Kenstone, trained by Dai Williams.

"He seems to have lost his confidence and I think we may have to bring him back to hurdles," Philip Hobbs, Bonanza Boy's trainer, said.

● Tote Gold Trophy winner Jamesmead will not race again. Trainer David Elsworth, who had hoped to persuade the horse's owners to run him at Cheltenham, said "He's been retired to stud in Ireland. His commitments there forced the decision."

Leicester results

Going: soft (ch); heavy (hdles)

2.0 (2m hdle) 1. **TABAREEK** (P Scudamore, Evens fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2. **Fourth Lad** (H Davies, 10-1); 3. **Josie Smith** (N Coleman, 100-30). ALSO RAN: 15-2 Malacanang (4th), 20 Perfect Stranger (5th), Silver Ancona (6th), 25 Paddy Will, 33 Tina's Beauty (f), 50 Eastend Blake, Cold Laser. 10 ran. 6l, ¾l, 10l, 1½l, 8l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £3.10, £1.80. DF: £16.20. CSF: £10.87.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1. **SNEAKAPENNY** (C Llewellyn, 33-1); 2. **Docksider** (C Cox, 11-10 fav); 3. **Vincanto** (Peter Hobbs, 85-40). ALSO RAN: 14 Mariner's Star (4th), 16 The Mighty Crosier (pu), 20 No Credibility (6th), 25 Gemtino (f), Giant Redwood, Just Aquitted (5th). 33 Royal Effigy, 50 Electropet, Soho Sue (pu), 66 Belvoir Boy, Travail Executive, Videofit (pu), Wigtown Bay 16 ran NR: Allmin, Late Delivery, Hargate Whisper. 2½l, 8l, 15l, 4l, 4l. M Wilkinson at Edgcote. Tote: £23.30; £4.20, £1.00, £1.80. DF: £33.20. CSF: £66.32.

3.0 (3m ch) 1. **BACKLOG** (B de Haan, 5-1); 2. **Bright Dream** (Peter Hobbs, 5-2 fav); 3. **Burnditch Boy** (P Niven, 5-1). ALSO RAN. 3 Bucko (6th), 7 Troop The Colour (f). 14 14-1 Alice's Boy (4th). 66 Pride O'Fife (5th). 7 ran. 10l, 4l, 1½l, ¾l, 2½l. J Dalton at Shifnal. Tote: £10.30; £2.60, £1.70. DF: £6.00. CSF: £15.98.

3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1. **CIMA** (R Dunwoody, 4-5 fav); 2. **Lafosse** (M Pitman, 3-1); 3. **Missing Man** (Peter Hobbs, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 16 Dry Gin (5th), 20 Valley Justice (6th), 25 Democratic Boy (4th) 6 ran. 20l, 1½l, 6l, 15l, 2l. J Old at Bristol. Tote: £2.20; £1.30, £2.70. DF: £1.50. CSF: £3.64.

4.0 (2m ch) 1. **ROYAL CRACKER** (Mr J Railton, 6-4 jt-fav); 2. **How Now** (M Pitman, 6-4 jt-fav); 3. **Damers Cavalry** (W Humphreys, 66-1). ALSO RAN: 15-2 Pleated (pu). 20 Remainder Wyn (6th), Smith's Lad (pu). 33 Easternm Player (4th), 66 Golden Seam, Robsim (5th), Correct Girl (pu), Lochlairey (f). 11 ran. 12l, ¾l, 6l, 5l, dist. T Bill at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Tote: £2.40; £1.80, £1.00, £7.70. DF: £1.70. CSF: £3.62.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1. **FAR TOO RICH** (S Smith Eccles, 12-1); 2. **Zanussi Line** (C Llewellyn, 12-1); 3. **Marquee Cafe** (H Davies, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 3 jt-fav Crested (5th), Fact Finder, 9-2 Bel Creation, 7 Streetfighter (4th), 20 Emperor Hotfoot, Tower Bay, 25 Bick Benedict (pu), 33 Beryl's Joke, Glover's King (6th), Hoffa, 50 Highsted (pu), The Brazilian, Emerkafa, Lady Tiki, Tartan Sash. 18 ran. NR: Slim Hope. 15l, ¾l, 2l, 1l, 2½l. Mrs D Haine at Newmarket. Tote: £9.30; £2.60, £1.90, £74.30. DF: £60.80. CSF: £137.07.

Placepot: £52.60.

Taunton

Going: soft

1.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1. **FAIRTHORNE LAD** (M Perrett, 33-1); 2. **Tangalooma** (D Browne, 3-1); 3. **Santella Grey** (P Croucher, 2-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Snowsdown (5th), 9 Russian Lullaby (4th), 11 Jonite, 16 Queen Matilda (6th), 25 Ragtime Solo, 50 Draw Lots, Saxon Den, Rebdanna. 11 ran. NR: Birwaz. 1½l, 20l, 2l, 2½l, 12l. M Madgwick at Denmead. Tote: £33.60; £5.90, £2.00, £1.30. DF: £55.20. CSF: £114.14.

2.15 (2m 1f hdle): 1. **NUNS ROYAL** (M Jones, 13-8 fav); 2. **Classy Bird** (I Shoemark, 6-1); 3. **Maid Maleen** (R Vaughan, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Ripster (4th), 8 Chester Terrace (f), Little Timing (5th), 20 Flying Silently (pu), 33 Arnold's Point (pu). Multi Spiral (f). 50 Joyce's Pet (pu). 10 ran. NR: Glen Weaving. 12l, 2l, 3l, 1½l. R Dickin at Newent. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £2.00, £3.30. DF: £4.20. CF: £10.72. Bought in 2,600gns.

2.45 (2m 150yd ch) 1. **SUPER EXPRESS** (P Nicholls, 2-1 fav); 2. **Feda** (M Bosley, 14-1); 3. **Bright Morning** (R Milman, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Cradle Of Jazz (pu), 7 Manston Marauder (5th), 15-2 Deep Ridge (4th), 9 Foresters Lad, 50 Grey Tornado (6th), Scottish Air (f). 9 ran. 10l, 7l, 4l, 12l, ¾l. D Barons at Kingsbridge. Tote: £2.90; £1.60, £2.50, £2.80. DF: £17.50. CSF: £25.55. Tricast: £201.02.

3.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1. **REDGRAVE DEVIL** (N Hawke, 9-1); 2. **Zuko** (G Landau, 5-2 fav); 3. **Arctic Cavalier** (J Leech, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Assaglawi, 8 Tight Turn, 9 Star's Delight (6th), 10 Milford Quay (4th), Our White Hart, 20 Home County (pu), Polar Star 25 Intrepid Lad, 33 Guymyson (5th). 12 Ran. 3l, 1l, 3l, 1l, 8l. K Bishop at Bridgwater. Tote: £8.60; £2.40, £1.90, £2.80. DF: £14.70. CSF: £29.25. Tricast £327.40

3.45 (3m ch) 1. **KENSTONE** (J Doyle, 50-1); 2. **Bonanza Boy** (G McCourt, 2-5 fav); 3. **Bush Radio** (J Frost, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 10 Bumbles Folly (f). Hasty Diver (pu). Pharoah's Laen (6th). 20 Chicago Is (pu). 25 Martial Commander (4th). 50 Bold Grenadier, Brampford Way (f), Idson Lass (5th). Minnie Fuller (f). 12 ran. 4l, 20l, 10l, 25l, 12l. D L Williams at Stourbridge. Tote: £22.90; £4.40, £1.10, £3.10. DF: £19.80. CSF: £68.35.

4.15 (2m 1f hdle) 1. **KINGS VICTORY** (A Mulholland, 5-2); 2. **Setter Country** (S Earle, 7-1); 3. **Go South** (S Sherwood, 9-1). ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav Daffodil (4th), 10 Johnny Sharp, Unity Farm Boy, 12 Fort-Wapping, 20 Gunner's Flight (5th), 33 Nonsuch Palace, 50 Danum Lad (pu), Willy Jump (6th), Tina's Luck (pu). 12 ran. 1l, 15l, 20l, ¾l, not recorded. M Usher at Lambourn. Tote: £5.40; £2.30, £2.00, £2.30. DF: £16.50. CSF: £21.05.

Placepot: £28.00.

● Susan Piggott has her first runner since being granted a training licence in her own right when Step Right Up (John Reid) contests the £5,000 Prix des Anemones (5f) at Cagnes-sur-Mer today. Mark Usher's Clarentia (Tony McGlone) also runs. Later, Charlie Nelson sends Coquiliage (Reid) for the £4,500 Prix de Besancon (10f).

Yachting diary

Supreme Court asked to decide

The San Diego Yacht Club has pleaded *no case to answer in the* action brought against the holders of the America's Cup by Peter de Savary's Blue Arrow Challenge, through the Royal Burnham YC.

The British case, which is scheduled to be heard in the New York Supreme Court next Wednesday, attacks *the Californian* club, first, for abrogating its fiduciary duties as trustee of the Cup by handing over responsibility for its defence to the Sail America Foundation, and, second, for failing to uphold a promise made last July to accept multiple challenges for the next defence.

Written in conciliatory terms, San Diego's defence document says *that the Club* "sympathizes with the Royal Burnham Yacht Club's plight" . . . but believes that it would be an empty gesture to open up a 1988 match to *other challengers* because New Zealand's huge head start would result in a foregone conclusion.

However, the club fails to answer de Savary's *principal* charge that he was given a *personal* assurance by Tom Ehman, executive vice-president of Sail America, that the British would be *allowed* to enter the next defence, irrespective of New Zealand's subsequent win in the same court to challenge for the Cup in 90ft waterline supermaxi yachts this September.

"*They made certain promises* and welshed on them, and now they choose to avoid the issue altogether," a confident de Savary said. "I interpret that as being very much in our *favour*."

The British syndicate head *has called on the* Supreme Court either to force the San Diego club to stand by its promise and delay the Cup for 10 months to allow Blue Arrow time to build a *challenger, return the Cup to the* previous holders, the Royal Perth YC, or reimburse Blue Arrow for the $6 million (about £3,425,000) spent so far on its abortive challenge.

Attractions of the Clyde

If offshore and ocean racing under the IOR rule is in decline, a fact highlighted by the 10 entrants lining up next week for the Southern Ocean Racing Conference in Florida, once the most prestigious racing event in the American calendar, interest at the *grass-roots level of the* sport in Britain is showing a healthy increase.

The Clyde Cruising Club is one expecting record entries for its major regatta this year — the McEwan's Scottish series between *May 26 and 31 — and it* has increased the number of classes to cope with the demand for family cruiser racing and encourage more from south of *the Border to test these beautiful* waters.

"*We are expecting a record* 250 boats this year and we just hope the weather remains as good to us as it was last year," Mike Balmforth, spokesman for *the club said yesterday.*

Another club making plans *for a big increase in competitors* is the Royal Torbay YC, which will hold its Torbay Admiral's Cup series between August 22 and 24. The Torquay club, which is also hosting the first *The Times*/James Capel Crewsearch trial in April, has opened its regatta to all comers, whether they race under IOR, Channel handicap or Portsmouth yardstick and are expecting more *than 100 cruiser/racers to* help fill the new marina now under construction across the bay at Brixham.

The Japanese connection

As the controversy surrounding the I-Punkt affair draws to a close, a final twist to this saga may well bring the West German tax authorities to run their own investigation into one aspect of the cheating that went on during the Admiral's Cup and One Ton Cup *events last year.*

The yacht, skippered by Thomas Friese, of West Germany, now banned from racing in British waters for 10 years for *his part in the scandal*, ostensibly had an overseas owner and raced under the Japanese sail number J 3063. According to the Nippon Ocean Racing Club, *however, this number belongs to* a half- tonner named Otoko To Onna, owned by Taku Hotta since 1984. The Japanese authority has no record of *I-Punkt's registration.*

Barry Pickthall

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7 30 unless stated

Barclays League
Fourth division
Cambridge v Exeter (7.45) ....
Colchester v Burnley ....
Newport v Hartlepool ....
Swansea v Stockport ....
Wolverhampton v Scarborough ....

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION: Norwich v Charlton.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: *Premier division:* Buxton v Mossley.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Birkenhead Park v Otley (7.15); Coventry v Northampton (7.15); Maesteg v Boroughmuir (7.15); Penarth v Swansea (7 0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Salford v Castleford.

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: Young riders' show (at Mill Lodge).
MOTOR SPORT: British open championship/Cartel international rally (at Bradford)
SNOOKER: Rothmans Matchroom League (at Birmingham and Monte Carlo).
TENNIS: LTA Men's satellite tournament (at Telford).

SPORT ON TV

BASKETBALL 1988: ITV 4 a.m. (tomorrow): Louisville v UCLA.
WINTER OLYMPICS: BBC1 12.05-12.55 p.m.: Report (ice skating, speed skating). BBC2 3-3.50 p.m.: Match of the Day (ice hockey). BBC2 5.30-7.30 p.m.: Grandstand (luge, Nordic skiing, ice skating, speed skating, ice hockey). BBC2 12-12.30 a.m. (today's highlights).

Tomorrow's five nations' championship match pits tireless coach's Welsh team against perfectionist full back

Hastings strives for more

By Mick Cleary

It was *the unerring reliability of Gavin* Hastings's steadfast boots two weeks ago in Scotland's victory over France which prompted Bill McClaren, the BBC *commentator, into a glowing* tribute. "I'd fall out of my *commentary box if* Gavin Hastings missed a kick to touch." There is little chance *of McLaren hurtling* head-long from the television gantry in mid-broadcast *at Cardiff* Arms Park tomorrow.

Roy Laidlaw, the scrum half, a *veteran of 45 internationals and* Hastings's Scottish colleague, considers *him to be "the most complete* footballing full back I've ever played with or against", and the garland of praise for Hastings does not end there. A panel of pundits deemed him to be the only player from the home countries worthy of inclusion in a team of the tournament following last year's World Cup.

The Welsh wit and wizardry will have to be on its best behaviour tomorrow. Any failing by them tomorrow will surely be punished by the right foot of Hastings, *whose 195* points in 15 internationals includes a record-breaking 52 points in his debut championship season two years ago and 21 points in individual matches against England and Romania.

"The winning of international matches is more to do with mental preparation than any technical tinkering," Hastings said. His cerebral qualities off the field impress just as much as his 6ft 2in, 15st *physical* attributes do on the field. "Against *Ireland we weren't in tune, against* France we were. It is as simple as that."

Given his insouciance about goal-kicking during a game, it is surprising to hear tell of his pre-match angst. "I just keep thinking what a release of pressure it would be if I didn't have to kick. The torment is unbelievable. Yet as soon as the whistle blows, no problem. I guess it's just some sort of natural build-up of adrenalin which helps control your nerves at the crucial moment."

He is also immensely self-critical. Despite his 16-point haul against France two weeks ago, he was unhappy with certain aspects of his play. "My tackling has got to improve," he said. "If I hadn't missed Lorieux at the end we'd have won by a thumping margin. Some people might be content just to be picked for their country. *I'm not. I always want to* improve."

It is difficult to imagine anything perturbing *Hastings, such is his* assured, happy-go-lucky demeanour. *The sparkle in his* eye rarely dims; his soft Scottish voice burrs; his broad, *lightly* freckled face beams with contentment.

Surveying his form: Hastings gets down to some work at his *Berkeley Square office (Photograph: Paul Lovelace).*

Life has been particularly kind of late. He stayed on in New Zealand after the World Cup in June, turning out for Auckland University, with whom he went on to win the club championship. He then hopped over to *laze* around in *Australia* for a month, visiting his elder brother, *Graeme, in Melbourne on the way.*

A few more weeks sunning himself in Colorado were interspersed with a jaunt to Japan to represent the *President's XV against the touring All Blacks. All in all, it meant* a rather belated start to the season in December. "I've *only played about a dozen* games so far," he said. "And I've never felt better."

It has not been all hedonism these past eight months. Career *plans* were being formulated and came to fruition *when Richard Ellis, a prestigious firm* of international chartered surveyors, *offered* him a position at their office in Berkeley Square. Hasings will play his last game for his Edinburgh club, at Watsonians, next week and then formally join London Scottish, with whom he's been training since his move about a month ago.

The Exiles are in the doldrums, and Hastings might have been expected to head for the more testing and stimulating pastures of Harlequins or Wasps. Not a bit of it. "I'm desperately proud to be Scottish," he said. "Right down to the kilt, the pipes and, of course, the malt. I'd hate to be an English player at the moment, because there doesn't seem to be any real empathy, either between the players themselves, or between the players and the spectators.

"In *Scotland*, we're much closer knit, probably by circumstance. The results speak volumes: we've won every game at Murrayfield since I first *played." He assures you, with his* usual ironic grin, that Scotland's *dismal* away *record* during that same period will soon show a 100 per cent improvement.

Gray has his eye on play with speed and flow

By Michael Stevenson

Tony Gray: hard worker

The first thing you notice about Tony Gray, the Welsh national coach, is the eyes: shrewd, sane and kindly. They are the eyes of a man in harmony with his environment. This man has not *developed a distinguished* coaching career as any sort of *ego trip*.

Catapulted into the job at Christmas 1985 with *relatively* little top-level experience, although he had coached London Welsh, Gray did nothing spectacular initially, and the prophets *of gloom* were howling at the state of Welsh rugby.

Gray took on the post when it* was discovered that John Bevan was too ill to continue, leaving him with just six weeks in which to fashion a side for the first *international.

This makes him keenly aware *of England's present predicament*: "I've got a lot of sympathy for Geoff Cooke and Roger Uttley, I experienced the same problems."

Gray, who was a Welsh selector for five years and has been a WRU staff coach since 1973, believes that the crucial period was the Wales tour of Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa in 1986.

***From this platform, better* spirit and increased confidence were launched and developed in the run up to the World Cup.**

The infamous England match last year was a setback, but the Welsh side's new-found faith in *themselves was clear to see in* their defeat of England at Twickenham last week, not least in the willingness of the pack to release good possession to their *half backs quickly.*

The credit for this must go to Gray. *For him coaching is as far* from a military operation as could be imagined. "I could direct the players, but they would not play with conviction. I *want the players to make the* decisions."

Gray is director of physical* recreation at Bangor University. Each week 3,000 people use the *sports* centre of which he is in charge. It caters for 30 sports in a *practical or advisory capacity* and in between all that, Gray is known to spend five-hour stints watching videos of previous *internationals.

"I try to tell the players before a match what to expect and *prepare them for it." Clearly his* job and his rugby represent a daunting work-load.

Perhaps the greatest compliment ever paid to Gray was his appointment to coach Wales as a North Walian.

From Friar's School, Bangor, he went to Cardiff College of Education, where he represented the college and Bridgend on the wing. His first teaching job was in London and his joining London Welsh, then in its pomp, *followed naturally.*

He played at flanker for the club, the position in which he won his two caps for Wales; there were seven British Lions in the team (J. P. R. Williams, John Dawes, Gerald Davies, Mike Roberts, John Taylor, Geoff Evans and Mervyn Davies). On one occasion, he was one of 14 internationals turning out for London Welsh; the fifteenth was captain *of* Wales B.

Any absentee landlord must travel or risk neglecting his property. With the mileage on *his car nudging up towards the* 150,000 mark, would Gray welcome a salaried job as Welsh coach? "Definitely *not.* My job here would come first. There must be more to life than rugby. I'm very fortunate I've got a *hobby that I thoroughly enjoy.*"

When this season's campaign *is over, with the alluring* possibility of the Triple Crown and the championship still beckoning, he must start planning for the international sevens *in Australia and the Welsh tour* of New Zealand.

***Talking to Gray, it is not* difficult to abstract the qualities vital to a coach: man-management, intelligence, flexibility, and patience, added to a formidable work-rate.**

Poacher Watkins keeps prize

By Gerald Davies

It used to be said of the Welsh rugby team, unless it sounds a little too Irish, that it was harder to get out of the side than to get into it. It still remains true, if I get the right drift, even in these more shifting times. And why not? After all, it is up to the outsider to prove himself to be so much better than the man in possession. Why change willy-nilly? And, just to make certain, *the man who wears the jersey* never, if he is wise, gives the slightest chance to those hungry hounds nipping on his heels from the sidelines, waiting for a chance to pounce.

For one man at Twickenham last *Saturday, such a chance* came. And, like the game old dogs hookers are, happy to poach whatever there is, Ian Watkins grasped the occasion *when it presented itself to him* in the 24th minute and Kevin Phillips came off the field with a hip injury.

Bad though it was for Phillips, who was beginning to establish himself in the position, and will no doubt be back again, there is not much sentiment around when such a prize is offered. Positions have suddenly changed. It is Watkins who is chosen to play against Scotland tomorrow and it is Phillips's *turn to be on the replacements'* bench.

"I can't tell you how thrilled I was to get on to get that first cap for Wales," Watkins says. "And another thing I can't properly explain is how excited I am *about* playing again on Saturday. What am I looking forward to? Simply running on to the Arms Park in front of my own crowd and hearing the roar."

As a youth player he never *quite managed to savour fully* that feeling. He had never played much at school at Ebbw Vale comprehensive school and at 14, had gone on to play for the RTB youth team. When the time came for Welsh representative honours he had to sit it out for two years on the replacement bench. Phil John, now the Pontypridd captain, was the man then in possession.

Watkins never thought twice which senior club he should join and once out of the youth section he had his first full season with Ebbw Vale in 1982-83, *although he had played off* and on in previous years and occasionally as a back row forward, a position he has taken up since. But hooker has always been his position, just as Ebbw Vale will always be his club.

"As well as the personal satisfaction of the Welsh cap, it meant a great deal that the honour should also be for the club and the town. Not much *comes our* way these days and players tend to drift to the more fashionable clubs. Although Clive Burgess, the wing forward, last played for Wales in 1981, he was first capped *in 1977. So it* has been over 10 years since anybody has been recognized in this way from the club."

He deals nowadays with Burgess through his business, a gas bottle dealership in Cwm, near Ebbw Vale.

He names four players who have largely influenced him in his position and, unlike most *sportsmen* who want to guard their own reputations jealously and offer only faint praise to others, Watkins is generous in his.

Bobby Windsor and Peter Wheeler he admires largely for their excellence in the very authentic virtues in the tight areas of the game; Colin Deans and Alan Phillips for going beyond these traditional bounds to incorporate a wider and perhaps a looser, reading of the game.

Watkins likes to think he has taken the best from both styles. He has won three Welsh B caps, was replacement against the American Eagles and has already played several times for, the Barbarians.

What is certain is that from a clutch of very good players in Wales who are competing forl *this same position, it is important* to chose the hooker who contributes to the game in ways other than simply retrieving the ball in the scrums. Others can do this equally well. While *Phillips'* makes a substantial contribution, *almost* as a fourth back row forward around the field of play, who is still perfecting the technique of throwing into the line-out, Watkins, while no slouch, *has an eye for the art of the dart.*

"It is an important area of the game," Watkins comments. "What was especially pleasing at *Twickenham was that if I threw* the ball in correctly then May, Moriarty and Norster had the ability to go up there and win the possession."

Watkins hit the mark consistently against England. If the contest between him and Phillips has a continuing quality *about it, it is Watkins's turn to* be on the oche tomorrow.

Tait back for final training

The Scotland squad was in confident mood yesterday as serious training was ended and it prepared to fly to Cardiff today for the match against Wales.

Allan Tait, the Kelso centre, who was out of action last weekend with influenza, was able to take a full part in the training and should be fit for Saturday.

However, there were still *doubts over the fitness of Richie* Collins, the Welsh flanker. Collins was sent home from yesterday's squad session with a sore throat, but doctors think the illness should clear up in time for tomorrow's match. In case *Collins does not recover*, Wales have put Gareth Roberts, of Cardiff, on standby.

The two players with fitness doubts in the Ireland squad for the international against France in Paris, Michael Gibson (with a back injury) and Don Whittle (influenza), both passed fitness tests in Dublin yesterday.

Ireland are hoping for their *first win in the French capital* since 1972.

England will miss sevens side-show

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

England's stock in Australia, which has not been high in the last two years, is likely to be lower today when the draw is released for the bicentennial sevens to be played at Concord Oval, Sydney on April 2 and 3. Although Wales and Scotland are sending national sides, England and Ireland have declined *to do so.*

There is an impression in New South Wales circles, *I* understand, that there was some kind of obligation upon the Rugby Football Union to send a team, as they did for the inaugural New South Wales tournament to celebrate the *opening of Concord two years* ago. Not that that team did anything to improve the standing of English rugby.

It was, however, made quite clear two years ago by the RFU that acceptance of the invitation was for 1986 only and there was no question of a regular attendance at an event which the NSW union markets strongly. It is now linked with the successful Cathay Pacific/Hong Kong Bank sevens in that the two *tournaments take place on* consecutive weekends. Since England are to make an eight-match tour of Australia in May and June, the RFU believes every *effort should be con*centrated on that.

The Australian case is that these are now genuine international events which deserve support from the established nations, as much for the contact with the less well-endowed countries as for enhancing the *appeal* and the financial viability of the tournaments themselves. The ARU will also release today details of the World XV to play Australia on *May 15.*

Bill Calcraft, the Australian international flanker who captained Oxford University last term, will lead the Penguins in the Cathay Pacific sevens. The Penguins have been drawn in *the same half as New Zealand*, the holders, as have the Irish Wolfhounds.

DRAW: Pool A: New Zealand, Spain, Kwang-Hua Taipei. **Pool B:** Irish Wolfhounds, American Eagles, Thailand. **Pool C:** French Barbarians, Tonga, Netherlands. **Pool D:** Penguins, Hong Kong, Papua/New Guinea. ***Pool E:*** *Australia*, Japan, Dubai Exiles. **Pool F:** Western Samoa, Italy, Sri Lanka. **Pool G:** Argentina, Canada, *Brunei.* ***Pool H:*** *Fiji, South* Korea, Singapore.

HOCKEY

Britain's loss is England bonus

By Joyce Whitehead

This weekend, 25 players plus one will attend the England women's training/trials at Bisham Abbey, after which the squad to play Spain at Wembley on March 19 will be named. The "one" is Mary Cheetham, who, for business reasons, was not available for the Great Britain squad going to Australia and can therefore play for England.

Two who are *unfortunate* are Vicky Dixon and Julie Cook. They are not in the British squad because Denis Hay, the coach, is eager to get more experience in depth before Seoul, but are on stand-by and cannot therefore play for England.

- The national junior tour*nament for under-18 teams* from the five territories — North, South, East, West and Midlands, the holders — starts today in Colchester.
- This weekend is the half-way stage in league hockey in Suffolk. In the first division, Lowestoft and Harwich, the second and third placed team, meet; YMCA firsts and seconds are drawn against each other. In the second division, Sudbury, the runaway winners, play Lowestoft seconds.

ENGLAND TRIALISTS: L Bayliff (Staffordshire), S Brimble (Gloucestershire), M Burrows (Derbyshire), S Chandler (Kent), J Crook (Lancashire), K Edwards (Norfolk), A Gallyer (Middlesex), R Goodridge (Devon), A Green (Middlesex), V Hallam (*Sheffield League*), S Helwell (Leicestershire), J Lewis (Derbyshire), C Liddell (Essex), S Lister (Essex), *L Marsden (Lancashire)*, T Miller (Devon), M Pickles (Bedford CHE), D Shorney (Avon), M Smith (Yorkshire), T Wilce (Suffolk), J Williams (Dorset), S Williams (Buckinghamshire), S Workman (Wiltshire), S Wright (Leicestershire), M Cheetham (Leicestershire).

Abbey visit for Mee

By Sidney Friskin

Simon Mee, the Oxford University captain, *has been selected to* play for the Hockey Association XI against the Universities Athletic Union at Bisham Abbey on February 24. The Hockey Association have chosen 16 players from the England under-21 *training squad now in* preparation for the junior European championship at Santander, Spain, from July 9 to 17.

The UAU squad of 14 includes the goalkeeper, Rowlands, Bolland and Hazlitt, from *the Great Britain training* squad, and the Welsh international, Mackney, and are themselves being prepared for the British Universities Sports *Federation tournament at* Swansea from March 22 to 24.

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION XI (from): M Langston (Welton), D Luckes (East Grinstead), S Bian (West Herts), S Mee (Oxford University), M Brayshaw (Wombourne), A Holmes (London University), R Hill (Taunton Vale), M Riley (Teddington), J Halls (Old Loughtonians), C Mayer (Cannock), R Garcia (Havant), N Thompson (Old Loughtonians), J Laslett (Millfield), A Billson (Teddington), P McGuire (Teddington), R Crutchley (Calday Grange GS).

UAU XI (from): S Rowlands (Loughborough); D Gasparro (Bristol), A Free (Exeter), P Bolland (Loughborough), A Sheridan (Southampton), M Kirkland (Bristol), D Burns (Exeter), O Mackney (Loughborough), R Hope (Manchester), S Hazlitt (Nottingham), J Roberts (Birmingham), R Heed (Bristol), I Woodward (Durham), *M Cross (Loughborough).*

- Birmingham qualify to meet Loughborough in the final of the UAU championship at Willesden on March 2 after beating Nottingham 4-2 on penalty strokes

FISHING

An unseen killer of the seas

By Conrad Voss Bark

All round the English coast thousands of sea creatures are dying lingering deaths trapped in invisible and forgotten nets. The Scots have banned these *nets; the English have not.*

They are made of nylon monofilament which cannot be seen in the water and they trap fish by their gills. They are highly efficient. *Over the years* many nets have broken away to become death traps not only for fish but dolphins, seals and diving birds. An aqualung diver *who disappeared off Lands End* may have been caught in one. His body was never found.

The Cornish Trust for Nature Conservation is following the path of the Atlantic Salmon Trust in pepairing a case to put to the Eurppean Commission asking for these nets to be banned. If they are, fishermen may have to go back to the old-fashioned hemp nets which disintegrate if they are lost. Nylon remains a permanent killer.

The trust's chairman, Dr Nick Tregenza, says that the fishing fleets would need help to get them over temporary difficulties if the nets were *banned but in* the long run the industry and the environment would be better off. If broken nylon nets accumulated they would cause serious damage to stocks of fish and probably are doing so now.

The trust is also concerned about a "marked decline" in the *number of dolphins.* Older people in seaside villages like Mousehole regularly saw schools of dolphins of many hundreds half a mile or a mile *from the shore. They are not* seen there now.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Fitness drive for tour men

By Keith Macklin

No one expected the internationals against the French to enlighten the Great Britain *management team* and, sure enough, they did not. Britain did the double, as anticipated, winning with a little difficulty in Avignon and, more predictably, enjoying a comfortable passage at Headingley. But in neither game did the British coach, Malcolm Reilly, learn much of a positive nature to aid him in finalizing squad plans for Australasia in the summer.

***The annual matches against* France are rarely little more than glorified training canters and can never be regarded as reliable yardsticks for British *performances against the* Australians or New Zealand.**

***Reilly is scheduled to an*nounce his touring party of 26 on April 5, without aid of further squad training sessions, which means there are just six weeks *more for him, the tour manager,* Les Bettinson, and a back-up team of former players like Phil Lowe and Allan Agar to run the *rule over the names in Reilly's* current short list of 32, while keeping an eye open for late bursts of form and skill from hitherto untapped sources.**

The players have, literally, the ball in their own hands. As *Bettinson outlines it they have* been put "on their honour" — not a phrase often heard in this cynical era of professional sport. Says Bettinson: "Mal has told the players, in their own interests, to put in extra training sessions in their own spare time. Two nights a week ordinary club training will not be enough to get them to super fitness ready for an Australian international series. The Aussies are always superbly fit when they come over here, and our players need to *drive and discipline themselves* to similar standards."

***Bettinson and Reilly are obvi*ously expecting a great deal from players who, with the exception of a few fitness fanatics, *regard the weekly club* training sessions as enough, and who are not averse to a pint or two when the pressure is off.**

Reilly has recently had a more specialized problem to worry about with the dropping of Ellery Hanley from the Wigan team. Hanley is the Great Britain captain and Reilly must have been shaken by the comments of the Wigan coach, *Graham Lowe, about Hanley's* "uncooperative and negative attitudes" at training. Reilly still has some hard thinking to do before he finally commits himself on a choice of tour skipper.

- **Charlie McAlister, the New *Zealander who was banned by* the Rugby Union after being discovered playing "secret" trials with Oldham, has been awarded a three-year contract by *the second division club.***

SCHOOLS RUGBY

Change of position for Thompson

By Michael Stevenson

The England 18-group selectors have asked the North to play the Silcoates attacking full back, Richard Thompson, on the wing. This would seem a clear indication that he is near to selection for England 18-group *in this position.*

The North backs, with Booth and Bingham outstanding, were *most impressive in their 16-12* defeat of the South-East and the North 16 group also defeated the South-East 10-3. The North will now meet the South and South-West *tomorrow at Stourbridge* and the Midlands will entertain the South-East on Sunday at Walsall.

The Ulster Bank Schools Cup has reached its quarter-final *stage:* Omagh Academy v Ballymena Academy; CAI v Regent House; Royal School Dungannon v Foyle and Londonderry Col and Campbell Col v Bangor GS.

Ballymena Academy put out the holders, Methodist Col, Belfast (3-0) in the previous *round after MCB had beaten* RBAI.

St Andrew's Col, from New Zealand, lost 10-7 to Sevenoaks but otherwise enjoyed a triumphant passage through Hong Kong, England, Wales, France and Scotland, winning eight matches and scoring 288 points to 38 conceded.

Bradford GS with five players off, ill or injured, came close to losing their unbeaten record, when they drew 9-9 with Mount *St Mary's, though Mount* needed a penalty from the match's last kick to poach the draw. Earlier in the week Mount had beaten Nottingham HS 16-14, *scoring all 16 points down*wind in the first half.

SNOOKER

Stevens is a cause of concern

By Steve Acteson

The news that Kirk Stevens, a self-confessed former cocaine addict, is voluntarily undergoing a 30-day course of treatment in a Toronto drugs clinic *will have caused some sorrowful* hand-wringing at snooker's Bristol headquarters this weekend.

There will naturally be concern for the health of the *Canadian, but there will also be* anguish over another blot on the game's image.

The powers that be have tried hard to distance snooker from its original image of a sport played in dim, smoke-filled halls — regardless of how grateful they still are for sponsorship from cigarette, spirits and beer companies — and they have pushed hard to present a more up-market appearance. The world governing body even has television viewing figures which show that snooker is watched *in* huge numbers by young, *middle-management types*, and there was great delight when finance houses moved to sponsor tournaments. On Sunday, we will begin to familiarize *ourselves with the ponderously* titled MIM Britannia Unit Trusts British Open, which offers £300,000 in prize-money.

Steve Davis, who has won four major titles already this season, warms up for his third-round match with Ray Reardon next Wednesday by playing a Rothmans Matchroom League game against Cliff Thorburn at Monte Carlo tomorrow night.

ORDER OF PLAY (Sunday): Third round (best of nine frames): E Charlton (Aus) v S James (Eng); S Francisco (SA) v J Bear (Can); T Griffiths (Wal) v M Morra (Can); A Higgins (N Ire) v T Jones (Eng); T Meo (Eng) v G Wilkinson (Eng); J Spencer (Eng) v F Davis (Eng); R Williams (Eng) v N Gilbert (Eng). B Chaperon (Can), bye.

FOOTBALL: ENGLAND PRESENTED WITH EXTRA OPTIONS IN MIDFIELD AS A LIVERPOOL DYNAMO GETS THINGS HUMMING

A door opening for McMahon may be closing on Allen

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Only one Englishman climbed out of the swamp in Tel Aviv on Wednesday evening with a brighter reputation. Instead of being submerged with the rest of his colleagues beneath the sodden surface, Steve McMahon emerged with a potential place in the squad for the finals of the European Championship.

The contribution of the debutant persuaded England's manager to include him an elongated list of midfield possibilities. McMahon has now joined Bryan Robson, Hoddle, Reid and Steven, as well as his less distinguished partner, Webb, as the candidates for the tournament in West Germany in June.

"He adapted to the conditions," Bobby Robson said, "and showed that he wouldn't be out of place in the international arena." Although he added: "We gained some other things, if not two points," little else that slipped around the soaking Ramat-Gan stadium was of any consequence.

Woods and Pearce, invited to take part merely for the sake of experience, learned a lesson that was neither relevant nor enlightening. They will be able to recall only how it feels to run through muddy puddles against one of the weaker international teams in front of 5,000 spectators.

The other features were already known. Without the driving force of Bryan Robson, for instance, England are substantially weakened. Without the natural predatory instincts of Lineker, who scored two sparkling goals to lift Barcelona into the Spanish Cup final the same evening, the attack is significantly less threatening.

"But for Bryan, we might have lost here two years ago," Robson said. "I am not saying we would have won with him, because the midfield pair worked like Trojans, but he is capable of turning a match by doing something special or brave. He lifts the side and we didn't have that.

"We also missed Lineker's dash and speed. That would have been an advantage, although he thrives on the balls that are sent in across the face of goal and we didn't do enough of that. It wouldn't be fair to judge Allen on that surface and given that service."

Yet Allen looked as uncomfortable and as impotent as he was during the similarly unproductive visit to Turkey last year. Substituted then and again on Wednesday, his international career may have ended in an undignified spray, even though Robson intended to introduce Harford, the replacement and another new boy, "whatever had happened".

England's manager did not consider being held by Israel a failure. "Sometimes you have to sacrifice a performance and maybe half a result to give players in the squad some experience." He will do so again at least once more before the summer but not at Wembley on March 23.

For the fixture against The Netherlands, one of the three first round opponents in West Germany, he plans to unleash his strongest team. The risk of revealing his hand is less of a priority than the desire to "put on a good show at home and win some games".

But, even though all of his representatives are expected to be available, half of them will be involved with their clubs the preceding Sunday. The game between Everton and Liverpool is to be televised live. So is Celtic against Rangers, which could feature Butcher.

Hoddle and Hateley will be performing for Monaco the same day. At least Lineker is sure to be released, since the Spanish domestic programme will, as usual, be suspended before their international match. The England party is likely to be together, as is not unusual, for a mere 36 hours.

"That is why it will be even more important to select my most experienced players," Robson said. Should that number include McMahon? He went to Israel as a future successor to Bryan Robson and came back, after a promising and unexpected appearance, as a possible immediate foil for England's captain.

The creative influence may be more limited, should the naturally left and right-footed pair be linked together against the Dutch, but the prospect is otherwise hugely appealing. In providing solid central security, they would give additional freedom to Barnes and either Steven or Waddle on the two flanks.

Greek strike hits Cup

By Clive White

Five players involved in FA Cup fifth round ties tomorrow were still stranded in Athens last night after an air traffic controllers' strike prevented the Northern Ireland party from returning home after their international match against Greece on Wednesday.

But the Northern Ireland FA has reassured all clubs concerned that it is a 24-hour strike and that the party will return to London early this afternoon.

Luton Town, who play Queen's Park Rangers in a fifth round tie at Loftus Road, would be the worst effected if the strike continues into Saturday. They have two players, Donaghy and Wilson, in the party.

Bill Tomlins, the Luton secretary, said: "If the players do not return by Friday night, we will approach the FA to seek a postponement. We feel that the loss of two players would jeopardize our chances in the Cup."

Other players involved in FA Cup ties who are affected are McClelland, Watford and Northern Ireland captain; Fleming, the Nottingham Forest full back; and O'Neill, the Newcastle United forward.

Clough ends Welsh speculation

Brian Clough yesterday ended all speculation about him becoming the full-time manager of Wales. The Nottingham Forest manager said: "The Wales business is totally finished; it's over, that's final. I'm fed up answering questions about it; this should put the record straight."

● Grimsby Town yesterday signed two midfield players — Kevin Joblin, from Leicester City, and Shaun Cunnington, from Wrexham — and sold Phil Turner to Leicester.

● Sunderland yesterday transferred Nigel Saddington, a reserve central defender, to Carlisle United for £12,500, and will receive a percentage of any further move

● Reading's hopes of making their first Wembley appearance were boosted yesterday when they were drawn at home to Coventry City in the semi-finals of the Simod Cup. The second division club have already belied their lowly League placing by beating Queen's Park Rangers, Oxford United, Nottingham Forest and Bradford City.

DRAW: Luton Town or Stoke City v Swindon Town or Norwich City (date to be fixed); Reading v Coventry City (March 2).

Out of the rough: Jim Smith, eye on the ball and a place in the FA Cup quarter-finals

Leading the country life

By Dennis Signy

FA CUP

When Jim Smith was beginning his career in football management a trip to Blackpool was considered the ultimate in preparation for an FA Cup tie. Managers believed that a formula of eggs and sherry for the players was a recipe for success.

Smith, whose Queen's Park Rangers entertain Luton Town on their Omniturf surface tomorrow in a match billed as the Plastic Pitch Champions' Cup final, has hit on an update of the old formula by chance.

When Rangers had to travel to Yeovil in the third round, he took his side to Cornwall for training on a sloping pitch; before the fourth round against West Ham United it was back to the West Country again.

Although Smith refuses to acknowledge it as a potentially lucky omen, Rangers went to a golf and country club at St Mellion early this week to prepare for Luton.

There was a training session on Monday, but the rest of the visit consisted of non-football events, golf, badminton and relaxing in 60° of sunshine.

Pressed to explain how a team can tone up for an important match on an artificial suface in this fashion Smith explains: "It is good for players to get away from London and their cars for three days."

Luton will learn nothing from the fact that Dean Coney was the Rangers golf champion and that Smith, Martin Allen, Coney and Dave Butler, the physiotherapist, won the team event. Smith greeted his badminton victory over Peter Shreeves, his chief coach, with the delight managers usually reserve for winning goals.

Apart from proving an even contest between two well-matched sides, tomorrow's game will be friendly after the final whistle. Smith and Ray Harford, the Luton manager, played together at Lincoln City; Smith later signed Harford for Colchester United and the pair have remained firm friends. The positive forecast is that they will share a beer at the end of the game and avoid any recrimination.

Smith believes he has a trump card in Falco, the goalscorer he signed from Glasgow Rangers for £350,000 in December. Falco, who scored 10 goals in 13 games in his brief spell north of the border, has already justified the description of Steve Foster, the Luton player-coach and his immediate opponent on Saturday, as "pound for pound the best striker in the first division".

Rangers will be playing for a return to the West Country as much as a game at Wembley.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Alexander adds to spiralling costs

By Paul Newman

The inflationary trend in transfer fees is likely to be given further impetus by Keith Alexander's request this week to leave Barnet. The GM Vauxhall Conference leaders have reluctantly agreed to release Alexander, who wants to move nearer his home town of Boston, provided they receive a "suitable fee".

Transfers this season such as those of Guthrie from Weymouth to Tottenham Hotspur for £100,000 and Angell from Cheltenham Town to Derby County for £45,000 have had a significant knock-on effect on deals within the non-League game. The latest of a number of five-figure moves this season have been those of Abbott from Welling United to Barnet for £15,000 and Bancroft from Burton Albion to Kidderminster Harriers for £12,000.

With goalscorers in particular at a premium, Alexander, who is regarded as one of the most accomplished forwards in the Conference, is likely to command a substantial fee. When Boston United put Cook on the transfer list recently they set a fee of £50,000 and Weymouth have made unsuccessful offers this season of £35,000 for Angell and £25,000 for Hercules, of Aylesbury United.

"We've all suffered because of the Guthrie transfer in particular," Stuart Morgan, the Weymouth manager, said yesterday. "Every club in this league believes it has players of that quality, but that just isn't the case. The market has gone haywire and although I would be prepared to pay substantial sums for quality players I still believe you can pick up good enough players for virtually nothing."

As if to emphasize Morgan's point, a player who cost just £500 helped Barnet inflict a 3-2 defeat on Weymouth last week. Parsons, signed from Maidstone United as cover for two injured midfield players, scored twice as Barnet came back from 2-0 down with a quarter of an hour remaining.

A move to Boston would be the obvious one for Alexander, but George Kerr, the Lincolnshire club's manager, who is looking to strengthen his squad, ruled it out. He said: "Alexander has been quoted as saying some not very complimentary things about our club and there is no way he could come here."

Barry Fry, the Barnet manager, would be prepared to enter the market for a replacement for Alexander, but John Murphy, of Cheltenham, has almost given up hope of buying a suitable replacement for Angell. He said: "Clubs are asking substantial fees even for fringe players and there is no way we will pay them. We have some good youngsters here

Stan Storton, the manager of Telford United, paid his biggest fee for five years when he signed Norris from VS Rugby for £8,000 last summer. As the Conference's leading scorer he would now command a fee of at least five times that figure. However, Storton said that even if he received a big fee for Norris he would still refuse to pay the high prices he has been quoted for some players.

Telford, who came back from 2-0 down with five minutes remaining to win 3-2 at Stafford on Tuesday in an FA Trophy third round replay, hope to extend their run of eight successive away victories tomorrow at Lincoln, who needed a last-minute equalizer to draw at home to Sutton United on Wednesday

● Fisher Athletic won the toss to stage their Trophy third-round second replay against Altrincham. The match will be played next Monday.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Tel Aviv: Israel 0, England 0. Riyadh: Saudi Arabia 2, Scotland 2. Athens: Greece 3, Northern Ireland 2.
BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Third division: Brighton 2, Chesterfield 2; Rotherham 2, Brentford 0.
FINE FARE SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Alloa 1, St Johnstone 1.
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Lincoln 1, Sutton United 1; Weymouth 2, Wealdstone 1.
SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION: Swindon Town 1, Ipswich Town 1; Crystal Palace 1, Oxford United 1.
SOUTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: League Cup, semi-final: Bristol City 1, Bournemouth 0 (aet).
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Second division: Oxford United 1, Tottenham Hotspur 1.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Hull 4, Blackpool 1; Huddersfield 1, Sheffield Wednesday 0; Sheffield United 1, Leeds 1. Second division: Scunthorpe 1, Port Vale 1; Doncaster 2, Darlington 1; West Bromwich 4, Bolton 1; Newcastle 2, Oldham 2; Barnsley 9, Wigan 0.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Shepshed 1, Corby 1.
VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: Premier division: Yeovil 2, Harrow 0. Second division north: Tring 0, Vauxhall Motors 0.
FAI CUP: Fourth round replays: Limerick City 3, Athlone Town 1; Cobh Ramblers 2, Drogheda United 0.
SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Mallorca 2, Sabadell 0.
WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Borussia Dortmund 1, Bochum 2.
BARCELONA: Spanish King's Cup: Semi-final: Barcelona 3, Osasuna 0.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

VALENCIA, Spain: International meeting: (Winners, Spanish unless stated): Men: 60m: J Arques 6.70. 60m hurdles: C Sala 7.66. Triple jump: O Sekirkin (USSR) 17.15. 5km walk: M Schennikov (USSR) 19:15.92. 800m: C Trabado 1:51.00. 1,500m: T Viali (It) 3:49.68. Long jump: A Corgos 7.77.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Adelaide: Tasmania 355 for 4 (M Taylor 150 not out, D Buckingham 126) v South Australia.

CYCLING

COCENTAINA, Spain: Tour of Valencia: First stage: (Spanish unless stated): 1, R Golz (WG) 5hrs 23.34min; 2, S Kelly (Ire); 3, A Gutierrez; 4, F Philipot (Fr); 5, L Wellens (Bel) all same time.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National Hockey League (NHL): Hartford Whalers 4, Winnipeg Jets 3; Montreal Canadiens 3, Boston Bruins 2; New York Rangers 5, Calgary Flames 3; Washington Capitals 4, New Jersey Devils 3; Detroit Red Wings 4, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Los Angeles Kings 6, Minnesota North Stars 4; Toronto Maple Leafs 4, Edmonton Oilers 4; Vancouver Canucks 5, Pittsburgh Penguins 0.

REAL TENNIS

MAIDENHEAD: Reicom National League, 16th round: Hampton Court (2pts) drew with the Professionals Association (2pts); Seacourt (4pts) bt T and RA (0pts).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: St Helens 64, Hull 2.

BASKETBALL

NATWEST LEAGUE CUP: Leicester Riders 122 (Vaughan 43, Young 38), Sunderland 76ers 128 (Saunders 55, McCray 31); Portsmouth FC 91 (Irish 31, Glass 19), Bracknell Tigers 84 (Scantlebury 19, Hales 15); Polycell Kingston 132 (Bontrager 43, Clark 24), Hemel and Watford Royals 115 (Thomas 53, Carr 30). UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Cleveland Cavaliers 115, Philadelphia 76ers 107; Dallas Mavericks 123, Washington Bullets 108; Milwaukee Bucks 115, Seattle SuperSonics 93; Denver Nuggets 138, Boston Celtics 125; Utah Jazz 108, Phoenix Suns 103; Portland Trail Blazers 110, Los Angeles Clippers 98.
EUROPEAN WOMEN'S CHAMPIONS CLUBS CUPS: Semi-finals, eighth series: Stade Francais Versailles (Fr) lost to Dynamo Novosibirsk (USSR), 96-70.

BOXING

CAPRIOLO, Italy: European lightweight title (12rds): Piero Morello (It) bt Salvatore Curcetti (It, holder), pts.
BETHNAL GREEN, London: Professional show: Welterweight (six rds): Paul Dears (Wapping) bt Glen Mitchell (Plymouth), ko 1st. Lightweight (eight rds): Ray Newby (Nottingham) bt Wayne Weeks (Plumstead), pts. Middleweight (six rds): Sugar Ray Thompson (US) bt Joe McKenzie (Cardiff). Lightweight (eight rds): Bob Williams (Bushey) bt Nigel Haddock (Llanelli), pts. Light-middleweight (six rds): Max Wallace (Barnes) bt Jimmy McDonough (Hastings), rsc 1st. Cruiserweight (six rds): Lennie Howard (Chelmsford) bt Johnny Williams (Tottenham), rsc, 5th. Heavyweight: Tim Witherspoon (US) bt Maricio Villegas (Mex), rsc, 9th.

FOOTBALL

FAI CUP: Fourth round replays: Ballyfermont United 0, Longford Town 1; EMFA 0, Bray Wanderers 3.

GOLF

MELBOURNE: Australian Masters tournament: First-round leaders (Australian unless stated): 68: J Benepe (US), W Riley, B Langer (WG). 69: C Parry, G Brand jnr (GB), I Baker-Finch, R Mackay. 70: N Faldo (GB), B Officer, J Senior, S Ginn. 71: A Forsbrand (Swe), M Officer, A Gilligan, R Shearer, P Jones, G Marsh, B King, G Alexander, J Woodland, P McWhinney, L Stephen, C Rauterson (US), R Rafferty (GB), S Bann. 72: W Brask (US), F Nobilo (NZ), M Clayton, G Taylor, M Ferguson, G Norman, P Senior, I Roberts. Other British: 73: I Woosnam. 75: David Feherty.
JAKARTA: Indonesia women's open: First-round leaders: 70: B Helbig (WG). 71: F Nagata (Japan), E Wilson (Aus). 72: Chien Pin Lan (Tai), Kim Ae-sook (S Korea). 73: K Lunn (Aus), P Liscio (US), Y Tonyama (Japan), N McCormack (GB). 75: B New (GB), S Strudwick (GB).
GERMISTON, S Africa: Tournament of Champions: Second round: 135: I Mosey (GB), 68, 67. 136: M James (GB), 66, 70; M McNulty (SA), 71, 65; H Baocchi (SA), 66, 70. 137: I Young (GB), 69, 68; R Lee (GB), 72, 65; W Westner (SA), 72, 65. Other British: 138: P Way, 69, 69.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE: Premier division: Hounslow 2, Richmond 0.

RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: British Polytechnics 10, Public School Wanderers 21; United Banks 4, Kent 37.
CLUB MATCHES: Newport 18, Cross Keys 22; Aberavon 12, South Glamorgan Institute 7; Glamorgan Wanderers 31, Cheltenham 16; Lydney 4, Pontypool 24; Maesteg 18, Newbridge 23.

TENNIS

MEMPHIS: US indoor men's championship: Second round (US unless stated): P Annacone bt L Duncan, 6-2, 6-4; J Pugh bt J Rive (P Rico) 7-6, 6-7, 6-3; C van Rensburg (SA) bt G Holmes (US), 6-1, 7-5; A Mansdorf (Isr) bt M Dickson, 6-2, 6-4; A Krickstein bt P Lundgren (Swe), 6-3, 7-5; S Edberg (Swe) bt D Keretic (WG), 7-6, 6-4; K Curren (SA) bt S Davis, 6-7, 6-0, 6-2; M Pernfors (Swe) bt J Lozano (Mex), 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; R Krishnan (India) bt M Chang, 5-7, 6-2, 6-3; A Gomez (Ec) bt J Yzaga (Peru), 7-5, 2-6, 6-4.
OAKLAND, California: Virginia Slims women's tournament: First round (US unless stated): C Benjamin bt E Pfaff (WG), 6-4, 7-5. Second Round: R White bt S Hanika (WG), 6-1, 6-4; L Savchenko (USSR) bt M J Fernandez, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; Z Garrison bt W White, 6-2, 6-2; G Sabatini (Arg) bt J Novotna (Cz), 6-4, 6-3.
TELFORD: LTA men's indoor satellite tournament: Semi-finals: J Bates (GB) bt R Whichello (GB), 6-1, 6-2; T Haldin (Swe) bt M Kratzmann (Aus), 6-3, 6-3.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) -	°C
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	40	190	good	varied	fair	fine	−2
Good skiing in sunny weather							
AUSTRIA							
Igls	5	25	worn	heavy	poor	fine	4
Still good skiing at Axamer Lizum							
Obergurgl	65	185	good	varied	good	sun	4
Icy conditions in morning							
St Anton	60	300	good	varied	fair	cloud	1
Wind crust off piste							
FRANCE							
Flaine	110	250	good	heavy	good	fine	−2
Most pistes in good condition							
Megève	85	200	good	crust	good	sun	−1
Perfect sunny ski conditions							
La Plagne	160	235	good	fair	good	sun	−4
Excellent on piste skiing							
Tignes	160	240	good	varied	good	fine	3
Excellent skiing on all slopes							
ITALY							
Courmayeur	160	280	good	heavy	good	fine	0
Superb piste skiing							
SWITZERLAND							
Davos	55	145	good	crust	fair	fine	0
Most pistes good, some worn							
Grindelwald	20	80	good	varied	fair	fine	3
Good skiing above 1,600m							
Gstaad	45	100	good	varied	fair	sun	1
Good skiing throughout the region							
Verbier	45	185	good	varied	fair	sun	5
Some worn patches on slopes near resort							
Villars	40	120	good	varied	worn	fine	4
Good skiing, icy in morning							
Zermatt	60	120	good	crust	fair	fine	−2
Good snow and excellent weather							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

GERMANY	L	U
Berchtesgaden	5	90
Garmisch	5	70
Hindelang-Oberjoch	20	60
Oberammergau	10	45
Oberstaufen	35	50
Oberstdorf	25	60

● Information supplied by the German Automobile Club.

NORWAY	L	U
Geilo	—	180
Hemsedal	—	180
Hovden	—	140
Lillehammer	—	200
Voss	—	150

● Information supplied by the Norwegian National Tourist Office.

SWITZERLAND	L	U
Adelboden	40	70
Andermatt	70	120
Arosa	75	120
Champéry	135	240
Crans-Montana	90	190
Engelberg	20	130
Klosters	50	150
Laax-Flims	30	110
Les Diablerets	40	140
Leysin	50	150
Mürren	30	110
Pontresina	55	200
Saas Fee	80	200
St Moritz	80	140
Wengen	70	90

● Information supplied by the Swiss National Tourist Office.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: upper runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, surface icy; middle runs, runs complete, hard packed snow with icy patches; lower slopes, runs complete, wide snow cover, wet snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 2,000ft; hill roads, clear; main roads, clear; snow level, 1,000ft. Glenshee: upper runs, runs complete, hard packed snow on a firm base; middle runs, runs complete, wet snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete, wide snow cover, wet snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 1,500ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 1,500ft. Glencoe: upper runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, wet snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete, wide snow cover, wet snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 1,800ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 1,500ft. Lecht: upper runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, spring snow on a firm base; middle runs, runs complete, wide snow cover, spring snow on a firm base; lower slopes, runs complete, wide snow cover, spring snow on a firm base; vertical runs, 700ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 2,000ft. Forecast for today: broken or overcast cloud; sunny intervals; scattered showers, falling as snow on the summits but amounts small; fresh north-west winds, but strong to gale on the summits; freezing level, 3,500ft. Outlook for tomorrow: little general change.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

BOXING

Confident start by newcomers

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Britain's newest promotion group of Terry Marsh and Frank Maloney, who brought over Tim Witherspoon, the former world heavyweight champion, for their first show at York Hall on Wednesday, was quietly confident yesterday that it would go from strength to strength in spite of stiff competition from established promoters.

Their company, the World Sporting Corporation (WSC), headed by Ambrose Mendes, a businessman, is planning to bring "two boxing legends" to a British hall.

The WSC will be bringing over Michael Dokes in March and Prince Charles Williams, the International Boxing Federation (IBF) light-heavyweight champion, in April. The company has also started talks with Banner Promotions, an American company, to stage Witherspoon's bout with Razor Ruddock in April, and then a bout involving George Foreman against an opponent yet to be named. Dokes will be matched with one of the top five British heavyweights.

WSC will also be staging the IBF welterweight title bout between the winners of Simon Brown, of Jamaica, and Tyrone Trice, of United States, and the leading contender. To get round the British Boxing Board's ban on 15-round contests, the championship and the undercard will be held at two different venues, which will be linked by closed-circuit television.

Mendes explained that WSC is not in competition with leading promoters like Warren and Duff and Barrett. Mendes said that WSC simply find a venue, buy a package of contests and sell it to the public at other countries. Witherspoon's bout with Maricio Villegas, of Mexico, at York Hall on Wednesday was sold to 11 countries.

As for Witherspoon's apparent inability to finish off an inept and flabby 17st 10lb Mexican, Slim Robinson, Witherspoon's trainer, said that the former world champion was treating the bout as a warm-up for his contest with Ruddock.

The game Mexican, who was stopped "from taking further punishment" in the ninth round, surprised everybody by staying on his feet for as long as he did, but received five stitches in his bottom lip and three above his left eye.

TENNIS

Cash answers bad call by asking for electronic devices

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Milan

Pat Cash and Miloslav Mecir, who often made good opposition look almost commonplace, joined Boris Becker in the last eight of the Stella Artois indoor championships here yesterday. Mecir had a 6-4, 6-0 win over Jonas Svensson and Cash, who came within a point of losing the second set, beat Sergio Casal 6-3, 7-6.

Mecir's reputation as a Swede-basher is not what it was but he can still bamboozle most of them. Svensson worked hard and played well in the first set but by the end of it he was a confused young man who has searched in vain for a key to Mecir's game. In the second set Svensson's end of the court looked awfully big. Mecir displayed his usual flair for luring an opponent in one direction, nudging the ball elsewhere.

Casal is a tall, lean Spaniard who walks with short, careful steps, as if fearful of damaging the earth's crust. He beat Becker in a Davis Cup singles last year and when his service and volley are functioning smoothly he can be a match for almost anyone. Yesterday he was not at his best in the first set but served for the second at 5-4.

"I was returning well," Cash said later, "and felt that, the way I was playing, I had a chance to break many times. But he served and volleyed incredibly well. I thought he couldn't keep it up."

Casal did not falter. But Cash broke back by raising his game to a level that is always within the reach of genuine champions.

Cash took an early lead in the tie-break by playing two classic points. He lost the advantage when Casal foxed him with a forehand passing shot and, next, with a bad line decision that deprived Cash of a point well won with a smash. Cash kept his composure and soon reached matchpoint with a fierce cross-court backhand. Then Casal charged the net in vain, because his forehand approach shot was just out.

Referring to the smash that had been called out, Cash asserted later that "every week somebody loses a match because of a bad call." He would like to see electronic monitors on every line. Essentially, though, the Wimbledon champion was a happy man. After last month's Australian championships he changed to a different make of racket. The more Cash plays with it, the more he likes it.

Such satisfaction is largely mental, usually deriving from the results achieved rather than a change of racket. What matters is that, however much he owes to the racket, Cash is becoming formidably confident.

RESULTS: Second round: C-U Steeb (WG) bt R Osterthun (WG), 7-6, 1-6, 7-5; M Srejber (Cz) bt M Schapers (Neth), 3-6, 6-2, 6-2; M Mecir (Cz) bt J Svensson (Swe), 6-4, 6-0; P Cash (Aus) bt S Casal (Sp), 6-3, 7-6; Y Noah (Fr) bt A Antonitsch (Austria), 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.

New singles

The Puma national club championships, which have attracted an entry of more than 1,000 teams, is to incorporate singles competition. Inaugurated in 1972, the championships have so far been restricted to doubles. Every team chose two pairs, who played both the opposing pairs. This year the first division matches will consist of two singles and three doubles. The finals will be played at Wimbledon on September 17.

WINTER OLYMPICS

Perfectionist finds he is open to error

From Ian Macleod, Calgary

As Katarina Witt remarked at a Press conference on Tuesday, no single sportsman or woman is truly invincible. "We are all human. We all make mistakes," she said. Pirmin Zurbriggen will be pondering long and hard over Witt's salient sentiment, at least until the super-giant slalom on Sunday.

At Nakiska's Heartbreak Hill on Wednesday, Zurbriggen bravely tried to smile but like the rest of us, he knew that by straddling a gate two-thirds of the way down the second run of the slalom section of the combined event, he had forfeited a dream which many said was impossible anyway: winning five Olympic gold medals.

The Swiss can console himself with the knowledge that the giant and super-giant slalom titles are still within his grasp. "Sure, I am disappointed," he said. "But I already have a gold medal. Five medals I think is too much, perhaps three is all right."

Perhaps so. But Zurbriggen is a perfectionist for whom money is an aside. That, he says, is for his manager, Mark Biver, to worry about. For this gentle mountain man's life goal is simple: to be recognized by his peers as not only the greatest allround skier of modern times, but of all time.

Zurbriggen knows in his heart of hearts that the combined title should have been his. It is not so much the fact that he lost, that rankles, but the manner in which it occurred. Hubert Strolz, of Austria, the beneficiary of Zurbriggen's rare error, had, it must be said, no chance of winning had the Swiss finished.

It was that simple, and Zurbriggen was, to say the least, perplexed: "It was going so well. That's why I was so surprised when I had the gate between by skis," he said.

There was, however, still a steely glint of defiance in those blue eyes. Sunday's super-G, it seems, cannot come quickly enough. "This only serves to give me even more motivation for the next race," he replied. But the manner in which he erred had, by then, become a recurring and haunting theme.

"I still have a chance," he says when asked if a treble was still possible. "But you never can tell. Look at today."

Warming up

Sussex will prepare for the cricket season with two 55-over games against Kent. The teams will meet at Hove on Monday, April 18, with a return match at Canterbury the following day.

RESULTS FROM CALGARY

CURLING

MEN (demonstration event, Wednesday): Fifth round: Denmark 8, Great Britain 3; Sweden 8, Canada 7; Norway 7, West Germany 5; Switzerland 7, United States 4. Sixth round: West Germany 7, United States 6; Switzerland 7, Norway 2; Sweden 9, Denmark 1; Canada 6, Great Britain 4. Standings: Canada 6-4-2-8; Norway 6-4-2-8; Switzerland 6-4-2-8; USA 6-3-3-6; West Germany 6-3-3-6; Denmark 6-3-3-6; Sweden 6-3-3-6; Great Britain 6-0-6-0.

WOMEN (demonstration event, Wednesday): Fifth round: Norway 9, Sweden 2; Denmark 5, Canada 2; West Germany 6, France 5; United States 9, Switzerland 6. Sixth round: United States 5, West Germany 3; France 9, Switzerland 1; Sweden 5, Canada 4; Norway 7, Denmark 2.

ICE HOCKEY

POOL B (Wednesday): USSR 7, United States 5; Czechoslovakia 10, Norway 1; West Germany 3, Austria 1.

POOL B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
USSR	3	3	0	0	20	6	6
W Germany	3	3	0	0	12	5	6
Czech'vakia	3	2	0	1	18	8	4
United States	3	1	0	2	20	20	2
Austria	3	0	0	3	6	21	0
Norway	3	0	0	3	4	22	0

ICE SKATING

MEN'S FIGURE (compulsory, Wednesday): 1, A Fadeyev (USSR), 0.6; 2, B Boitano (US), 1.2; 3, B Orser (Can), 1.8; 4, H Fischer (WG), 2.4; 5, V Kotin (USSR, 3.0; 6, V Petrenko (USSR), 3.6; 7, G Filipowski (Pol), 4.2; 8, C Bowman (US), 4.8; 9, R Zander (WG), 5.4; 10, O Hoener (Switz), 6.0. British placing: 16, P Robinson, 9.6.

NORDIC SKIING

WOMEN'S 5km (Wednesday): 1, M Matikainen (Fin), 15min 4.0sec; 2, T Tikhonova (USSR), 15:05.3; 3, V Ventsene (USSR), 15:11.1; 4, A Jahren (Nor), 15:12.6; 5, M Kirvesniemi (Fin), 15:16.7; 6, I Nybraten (Nor), 15:17.7; 7, M Westin (Swe), 15:28.9; 8, S Nageikina (USSR), 15:29.9; 9, M Dahlmo (Nor), 15:30.4; 10, R Smetanina (USSR), 15:35.9.

DISABLED MEN'S 5 KILOMETRES (Wednesday): 1, H Aalien (Nor), 18min 51.2sec; 2, A Pettersson (Swe), 19:29.7; 3, A Tveit (Nor), 19:48.6. British placing: 4, P Young, 19:49.3.

DISABLED WOMEN'S 5 KILOMETRES (Wednesday): 1, V Preining (Austria), 22min 56.3sec; 2, K Pennanen (Fin), 23:00.1; 3, M Hager (Austria), 26:59.3.

SKIING

MEN'S COMBINED (Tuesday and Wednesday): 1, H Strolz (Austria), (downhill 17.77 pts, slalom 18.78 pts), 36.55; 2, B Gstrein (Austria), (38.43, 7.02), 45.45; 3, P Accola (Switz), (48.24, 0.00), 48.24; 4, L Alphand (Fr), (29.80, 27.93), 57.73; 5, P Jurko (Cz), (37.42, 21.14), 58.56; 6, J-L Cretier (Fr), (34.66, 28.32), 62.98; 7, M Wasmeier (WG), (26.71, 38.73), 65.44; 8, A Bires (Cz), (36.87, 31.63), 68.50; 9, F Christian Jagge (Nor), (85.66, 9.55), 95.21; 10, N Henning (Swe), (47.02, 49.23), 96.25. British placing: 26, M Bell, (29.14, 393.65), 422.79.

SKI JUMPING

90 METRES TEAM: Postponed from Wednesday.

SPEED SKATING

MEN'S 5,000m (Wednesday): 1, T Gustafson (Swe), 6:44.63; 2 Leo Visser (Neth), 6:44.98; 3, G Kemkers (Neth), 6:45.92; 4, E Flaim (US), 6:47.09; 5, M Hadschieff (Austria), 6:48.72; 6, D Silk (US), 6:49.95; 7, G Karlstad (Nor), 6:50.88; 8, R Fraier (EG), 6:51.42; 9, M Greenwald (US), 6:51.98; 10, D Kah (Aus), 6:52.14. British placings: 37, J Green, 7:13.20, 38, C McNicol, 7:34.14.

MEDALS TABLE

(After Wednesday's programme)

	G	S	B	Tot
Soviet Union	3	4	2	9
Finland	2	0	1	3
East Germany	2	0	0	2
Switzerland	1	1	1	3
Austria	1	1	0	2
Sweden	1	0	0	1
Netherlands	0	2	1	3
Czechoslovakia	0	1	1	2
West Germany	0	1	0	1
France	0	0	1	1
Japan	0	0	1	1
Norway	0	0	1	1
United States	0	0	1	1

TODAY'S EVENTS

(All times are GMT)

Friday, Feb. 19

ICE HOCKEY (Pool B): Olympic Saddledome: West Germany v Soviet Union (9.15 p.m.); United States v Norway (1.15 a.m. Saturday). Stampede Corral: Czechoslovakia v Austria (9 p.m.).

LUGE: Canada Olympic Park: Doubles, first and second run (5 p.m.)
NORDIC SKIING: Canmore Nordic Centre: Men's 15km (5 p.m.)
SKIING: Nakiska: Women's downhill combined (7 p.m.)
CURLING (demonstration): Max Bell Arena: Semi-finals (1 a.m. Saturday)

TELEVISION TIMES

BBC1: 12.05-12.55 p.m. Winter Olympics Report: Ice skating: Men's short programme. Speed skating: Men's 1,000m.

BBC2: 3-3.50 p.m. Winter Olympics Match of the Day: Ice hockey: Canada v Finland.

BBC2: 5.30-7.30 p.m. Winter Olympics Grandstand: Luge: Men's doubles. Nordic skiing: Men's 15km. Ice skating: Men's short programme. Speed skating: Men's 1,000m. Ice hockey: Canada v Finland.

BBC2: 11.30 p.m.-12.10 a.m. Winter Olympics Report: Today's highlights plus news of the downhill section of the women's combined alpine skiing event.

KEY TO COUNTRIES

And: Andorra. Arg: Argentina. Aus: Australia. Bel: Belgium. Bol: Bolivia. Bul: Bulgaria. Can: Canada. Col: Colombia. C Rica: Costa Rica. Cyp: Cyprus. Cz: Czechoslovakia. Den: Denmark. EG: East Germany. Fin: Finland. Fr: France. GB: Britain. Gr: Greece. Guat: Guatemala. Hun: Hungary. Ice: Iceland. It: Italy. Jam: Jamaica. Leb: Lebanon. Liech: Liechtenstein. Lux: Luxembourg. Mex: Mexico. Mon: Monaco. Mong: Mongolia. Mor: Morocco. Neth: Netherlands. Neth Ant: Netherlands Antilles. N Kor: North Korea. Nor: Norway. NZ: New Zealand. Phil: Philippines. Pol: Poland. Por: Portugal. P Rico: Puerto Rico. Rom: Romania. S Kor: South Korea. S Mar: San Marino. Sp: Spain. Swe: Sweden. Switz: Switzerland. Tai: Taiwan. Tur: Turkey. US: United States. USSR: Soviet Union. V Is: Virgin Islands. WG: West Germany. Yug: Yugoslavia.

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Tuned in for a whole load of medals

From David Miller
Calgary

Peter Young is a likely lad from Dagenham. A piano-tuner by trade. Does a bit of most sports. Running, rowing, spot of canoeing now and then, that kind of thing. Enjoys his pint.

The other day he was out here skiing. *He says it is the* best sport he's ever done. Cross-country. You know, *where you seem to go more* uphill than downhill, slog yourself silly till you're nearly sick. Fun for those who are fit, though.

The best bit was, he met the guv'nor, as he calls him. Juan Antonio, that fellow who runs the Olympics. Smashing bloke. Stayed to watch the whole race.

Mind you, a pity about that fourth place. Just another seven-tenths of a second faster over five kilometres and he'd have had the bronze. Medals? Well, he doesn't want to sound flash, but he's got a load back home, from bits and pieces. An Olympic *exhibition medal would have been nice.* Still, mustn't grumble. It is a good life. Specially when you are blind.

Peter lost his sight when he was two years old. At blind school, he wasn't particularly musical, but decided on piano tuning because it gave him freedom. He could be his own boss. He laughs. "It is just a question of hearing," he says. "You don't really have to know G from C."

He travels by public transport. Finding *his way to clients' addresses isn't difficult* from the Tube or bus station, if he has proper directions. House numbers can be tricky. If they're figures, he is okay. "But if they are painted, I am in trouble."

He is 32 now, got married a couple of years ago. *Kathy works at the Midland* Bank. He met her at the ice skating rink.

A while back, one day when he was running, the Blind Sports Federation said there was some skiing at Beitostolen in Norway. That's a bit keen, he thought; *downhill and all that.* Anyroad, why not give it a go.

It turned out to be cross-country and that *was where he met Jan Knutsen. Jan's in ICI* Chemicals, a sales rep. And was a volunteer guide: skiing a few yards *in front,* shouting *back instructions* and warnings, leading touch-shoulder round obstacles. They have *been together as a pair since* '83. Jan *drops* in at Dagenham when he is in London two or three times a year.

Peter's been to four Physically Handicapped Olympics. He was eighth in 1980, got the bronze with Jan in '84, and was fifth last month in Austria.

They finance themselves, though they occasionaly manage some fund-raising: a bit of sponsored marathon running, say. Peter did three hours 40 minutes in 1983, the same year he took part in the Devizes-to-Westminster canoe race.

"If I didn't do this kind of thing," he says, "I'd get fat and lazy. But apart from a *sense of fulfilment, it* increases your spatial awareness, your mobility and reaction. You're sharper. It makes you feel that much damn better. Two hours of this, a shower, and you've earned a pint."

The winner this week was Hans Aalien, of Norway, a *computer scientist in* the final stages of a master's degree at Oslo University. He's 29, and has been *blind* since birth. He has been skiing for 14 years. Arne Homb is his guide.

They ski once or twice a week, and have *run together* a lot. But Hans is going to have to get a new guide for running. He is now too *fast for* Arne. *Receiving the gold medal* from Samaranch, hearing the Norwegian anthem: That was good.

"I beat Hans skiing once," Peter reflects, as he gets changed for the evening party.

Millichip worried by military threat to German peace

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Bert Millichip, the chairman of the Football Association, yesterday saw a potential loophole in the security measures for the European championship in June. He feared that it could be disrupted by members of the British Army who are based in the host country, West Germany.

Millichip said he was prepared "to go to the top" to ensure that the tickets for the event did not fall into the *hands of the irresponsible.* Speaking on the way back from England's match in Israel, he said: "We will make the Government aware of the need for greater control over the military personnel in Germany.

"While we were happy with the arrangements that were made for the friendly match in Düsseldorf last September, there were obviously still areas *of concern.*"

The local police issued a statement after the game, indicating that half of the 40 people arrested were members of the forces. A spokesman for the Minister for Sport confirmed yesterday that 3,000 tickets were sold in West Germany to the army and "there were some problems. We can understand the concern of Mr Millichip".

However, British soldiers found some support yesterday. A Rhine Army spokesman said: "No British servicemen stationed in Germany were arrested at the England-Germany match in Düsseldorf last September. A number of Britons arrested told the German police they were servicemen, but were quickly seen through by British military police working in co-operation with their German civil colleagues."

"British soldiers here take *pride in their good relations* with German people. They are *not at all happy to* be lumped together with British soccer louts, either physically on the terraces or by reputation."

In Düsseldorf, a German police spokesman said: "British soldiers based in Germany are in order, so far as we are concerned. We don't expect any trouble from them during the championship. There was a misunderstanding over the reported arrest of some British troops last September."

Meetings have already been held between the FA, the Foreign Office, the Ministry of Defence, the Department of the Environment and the police. All agree that tickets should be sold exclusively through the FA, but individuals in Germany can purchase them by collecting vouchers, which are being issued at German League fixtures.

The FA has applied for 11,000 tickets at each of England's three first round ties and the Ministry of Defence has requested some of them. The Minister for Sport will insist that those bought by the army "will go only to their personnel and not back into this country".

Colin Moynihan's spokesman added that: "We cannot lose control of the ticket distribution and we would also want all the army personnel to be segregated together with the other England supporters. Otherwise, they *could be subjected to great* provocation. The trouble is *tickets could be bought on the* day of the game."

"The army must recognize that this is a big operation and top level administrators should be involved," Millichip said. "It cannot be something that is passed down and delegated to a junior officer. We are working strenuously to do everything we can to make sure that there is no trouble."

He even went as far as to suggest that if "this matter is not resolved, it may well be that the army should be confined to barracks." His extreme precautionary measure was not viewed with great sympathy by a spokesman for the Ministry of Defence.

He replied by saying that "soldiers live in a democratic *society and there is nothing to* prevent them from buying *tickets in West Germany if the* system allows."

Rowlands takes over at IRFB

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Keith Rowlands, the former Wales and British Lions second-row forward and one of the two Welsh representatives to the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) for the last five years, was named yesterday as the board's first paid secretary.

For 101 years *the* IRFB, Rugby Union's leading authority *on the* laws and amateur status but not its ruling body, has existed without paid officials, and, until last year, with no official headquarters. Rowlands's first task will be to establish the machinery to fill that void.

He will take over from the present honorary secretary, Air Commodore Bob Weighill, after the board's annual meeting next month, probably in *May or June.*

Rowlands, aged 52, was born in *Brithdir* and educated at Aberdare Grammar School. During a playing career lasting from 1948 to 1966 he appeared for Welsh Schools, London University, London Welsh, Llanelli and Cardiff. He won five caps between 1962 and 1965, and toured with the 1962 British Lions to South Africa. He was in turn captain, coach, fixture secretary and chairman of the *Cardiff club* and became chairman of the Welsh selectors.

***His* appointment, which was first advertised only last November at a salary of around £30,000, has to be approved by the IRFB next month before he can take up his office at the present board headquarters in Whitton Road, Twickenham, his home for the "foreseeable future". There were some 70 applications, though John Howard, the Australian Rugby Union *treasurer and initially thought* to be a leading candidate, was not among them.**

Initially Rowlands, who is chairman of the IRFB's policy committee, will be concerned with the physical process of setting up a new administrative unit, but he said yesterday that one of the key roles in his new job was to establish *a dialogue* between the board, its member countries and *particularly* the associate members.

Louw's return attempt fails

Johannesburg (Reuter) — The South African Rugby Board (SARB) has refused Rob Louw, the former Springbok flanker, permission to return to the amateur game after playing Rugby League for two seasons as a professional for Wigan, the British club.

Earlier this month, Louw, a *reserve officer in the Navy,* had applied to coach and play for the Cape Defence Rugby Union club under an old IRB *ruling that allows servicemen* to play the amateur code for services clubs, even if they have been professionals. The SARB *rejected this* because Louw was not a full-time serviceman.

Collared: Tony Granato halts the progress of Aleksei Gussarov during the first period

Rocky horror show for American racer

From David Miller, Calgary

One of Alberta's five-minute weather changes blew off the top of the Rockies here yesterday and caused the postponement, initially for an hour, of the women's downhill.

Half an hour before the scheduled start at 11.30 a.m. (Rocky Mountain Time) conditions were perfect. The sun shone, the course looked inviting and a 20,000 crowd waited expectantly for the battle between the Swiss women and deadly rivals, Walliser and Figini.

There has been one disaster already. Pam Fletcher, the American racer, collided with a steward standing by an exit at the foot of the run at the end of the course as she finished an early practice run. She broke her leg and was taken to hospital: yet another of the many misfortunes which this winter have overtaken the American Winter Olympic team.

Brigitte Oertli, one of the four Swiss entries, was now due to ski first. But a strong wind had got up. *Oertli* left the gate to head down the difficult opening section through Big Mac, the Gouger and Medal Maker turns that should be decisive in finding the winner. After three bends, with the powder snow billowing in her wake, she missed the line and then a gate and pulled up in disgust.

At the top of the course the *marker flags were bending in* the wind, as they were last *Sunday when the men's down*hill was postponed for 24 *hours. There* was a pause as Michaela Gerg, of West Ger*many, waited* to start and then officials temporarily called off the race.

The skiers would no doubt be hoping for a postponement of 24 hours because it is difficult to prepare oneself again for a restart one hour later. Yet Walliser would be loath to lose her handy starting position of eleventh if a redraw were made with a full day's postponement.

Resilient US almost do it again

From John Hennessy

Except for the result, it was Lake Placid all over again. In *1980,* the United States Olympic ice hockey team, comprising college students, had been lifted to unimaginable heights by patriotic fervour to beat the supposedly invincible Soviet Union. Here, again, they displayed marvellous reserves of determination. From 6-2 down, the United States, again, a team of amateurs against professionals, came back to 6-5 in a crescendo of support.

Suddenly, with two minutes to go, everything died. Quite against the run of the play, Fetissov roared in on a pass from Makarov and snaked his way through for his second goal of the night with a brilliant backhand shot.

There was a final, dramatic flourish, when the Americans, having agonizingly hit a post, scrambled the puck into the net with 16 seconds left. The goal judge signalled a score to the United States, but was overruled by the referee. Mylnikov had made a clean catch in goal and the puck was dead before Norton bundled *the* goalminder, spilled puck and all, over the line.

American frustration led to bitter scenes before the game *could* be resumed, but by now, of course, their cause was lost.

An American player in the penalty box had enabled the Soviet Union to score three of their goals, one of them with only three seconds of the penalty left, but at other times they looked, as they were reputed to be, a class above their opponents.

In the third period, however, the Americans took advantage of a penalty to pull one back, and it was as though someone had put a charge of electricity through them.

Deft combination opened a way for Macdonald, a superb first-time pass by Young put in Fusco, and Okerlund had the final touch when the puck slid home under a mountain of bodies to bring the score to 5-6.

There were 11 minutes of the game left and the Americans played like men inspired. Shots rained in on Mylnikov and the Soviets had to seek the sanctuary of a time-out for 30 seconds' relief. Then Fetissov brought the show eerily to a dead stop.

Hollins lays out the welcome mat

By Dennis Signy

Comparative peace was restored to Stamford Bridge after another turbulent week when John Hollins, the manager, prefaced a statement at the club's training ground yesterday by saying: "Bobby Campbell is welcome at Chelsea."

Campbell, the former Fulham and Portsmouth manager and for the last seven months reserve team coach at Queen's Park Rangers, was appointed by the Chelsea directors following the departure of Ernie Walley, Hollins's number two, as chief coach. Campbell has taken the position without a contract and without as yet discussing his financial terms.

Speculation that Hollins, who did not recommend Campbell's appointment, might not accept the board's decision was dispelled after a two-hour meeting between the two men and Graham Smith, a club director. Joe McLaughlin, the club captain, was called in so that the players could be kept informed of developments.

Smith *later* reported the restoration of tranquillity to Ken Bates, the chairman, who is in South America. A prospective move by Hazard, the inside forward who has not figured in Chelsea's first team plans in recent weeks, has been "put on ice" while Campbell helps assess the talent at Stamford Bridge. Queen's Park Rangers' latest offer of £275,000 for Hazard was rejected this week; Jim Smith, the Rangers manager, confirmed last night that he will not be increasing his bid.

Campbell, obviously delighted at being offered the position, albeit from the unorthodox route of an approach from the directors, said he thought Chelsea were possibly in the top four or five clubs in the country.

Campbell is now installed at Chelsea to try and help Hollins get the side out of a run of 15 League games without a win.

Laurie Cunningham and Peter Barnes, two former England wingers, are to join Wimbledon. Cunningham, aged 31, the former West Bromwich Albion, Manchester United and Real Madrid player, has signed from Charleroi in Belgium on a non-contract basis and could play in Saturday's FA Cup *fifth-round tie* at Newcastle. Barnes, 30, will *join Wimbledon next week on* loan from Manchester City.

Coca Cola new FA sponsor

The Football Association has reached agreement with a new sponsor for the National Coaching Scheme and the Charity Shield (Stuart Jones writes). Coca Cola, a company that has given financial assistance to global events such as the World Cup, is expected to sign a deal worth £1.4 million over four years.

The FA, whose previous contract with General Motors was worth half as much and expired at the end of last year, is also looking for a sponsor for the Rous Cup. Bert *Millichip, the chairman,* estimates that one could be found within *a month for the triangular tournament,* which also *involves Scotland.*

Colombia will be competing at the end of May for the trophy, which was *inaugurated* last year and claimed by Brazil. "*This is the* FA's second most prestigious event behind *the FA Cup,*" Millichip said, "and we have to agree in principle with *the* Scottish Football Association." *He added that if* Argentina had been the third nation "*sponsorship might* have been more readily *available*".

Legal action postponed by officials

Andy Norman and Les Jones, two leading British officials named in allegations in *The Times* of drug abuse in athletics, will not be taking legal action while the committee of inquiry investigating the accusations is sitting.

The *Amateur* Athletic Association yesterday reaffirmed *its support* for Norman, its promotions officer, and Jones, secretary of the Northern Ireland AAA, following the general committee's offer to give them legal backing to contest the allegations if it was required.

Peter Coni, chairman of the committee of inquiry, has requested that no legal proceedings be instituted while the three-man committee is still meeting, and Norman and Jones, who both strongly deny the allegations, have agreed.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Quick win for Bates

Jeremy Bates, the *British* No. 1, took just 63 minutes to beat *Richard* Whichello, of Kent, 6-1, 6-2 in the LTA men's indoor satellite semifinals at Telford yesterday.

Bates will meet Thomas Halvin, of Sweden, who returned to tennis in May after a two-year break. Halvin beat Mark Kratzmann, of Australia, 6-3, 6-3 in the other semifinal.

New event

England's lower-ranked male squash players are to have their own national competition. The Cathay Pacific/Dunlop championship is open to all men except those who have played for their country or been ranked in the English top 20 within the last five years.

Mosey: takes the lead

Mosey leads

Germiston (Reuter) — Ian Mosey, of England, shot a five-under-par 67 to take the lead at the half-way stage of a Sunshine Circuit golf event

Coach named

Harare (AFP) — The former Moseley centre, Colin Osborne, has been appointed national coach, the Zimbabwe Rugby Union announced yesterday.

No leave

Auckland (AFP) — Fifteen hundred police of this North Island city have been told that all leave will probably be cancelled during the world cross-country championship here on March 26. They are expecting a big anti-apartheid demonstration when South African-born Zola Budd, of Britain competes in the event.

Pat O'Brien

The president of the Football Association of Ireland, Pat O'Brien, aged 58, has died in hospital, 10 days after suffering a heart attack.

Back on top

Melbourne (Reuter) — Bernhard Langer, of West Germany, shrugged off a nagging back injury to fire a five-under-par 68 and share the lead with Wayne Riley, of Australia, Jim Benepe, of the United States, after the Australian Masters golf tournament first round yesterday.

Bobsleigh does not get the Royal descent

From Chris Moore

The Princess Royal declined the opportunity of a ride down the Olympic bobsleigh track in Calgary yesterday for fear of becoming the centre of media attention.

The Princess has let it be known privately in the past *that she would relish the* experience, and while on a *tour* of the track with Mo Hammond, the president of *the Olympic Jury here,* arrangements were made for *Malcolm Lloyd,* the former British champion who now coaches the Canadians, to take the new member of the International Olympic Committee down in a four-man sledge. But the Princess declined the offer because of the number of film crews on the track.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union team was left with an unprecedented selection problem after two of its three drivers tied for the second spot in the team with identical aggregate times in their selection laufs. Maris Poikans beat Zintis Ekmanis by 0.13sec on the first run, only for the 1984 Olympic bronze medal-winner to win the second lauf by a similar margin. Officials decided that Ekmanis would drive the No. 2 Soviet sledge.

It was also confirmed yes*terday that Wolfgang Hoppe,* the double Olympic champion *four years ago, will not have* the services of Dietmar *Schauerhammer, his regular* brake man, behind him tomorrow.

The East Germans have taken a calculated gamble by preferring to use Bogdan Musiol, winner of four previous Olympic medals, including a gold with Meinhard Nehmer in the 1980 Olympic four-man event in *Lake Placid.*

● The British Ski Federation announced last night that it is setting up a trust fund for Eddie Edwards, the ski jumper who has become a cult figure at the Olympics. Edwards has been inundated with offers of sponsorship and commercial contracts since becoming Britain's first Olympic ski jumper.

END COLUMN

Taking the mike out of cricket

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Dunedin

The atmosphere of this England tour has been volatile since its outset. It needed only a *spark to* ignite a *blaze* of resentment and now *that* it has come, *in a moment of temper* from an overwrought fast bowler, the alarm bells are ringing loudly.

Graham Dilley's £250 fine, imposed on Wednesday for bad language, as distinct, in the management's eyes, from dissent, has aroused a measure of the siege mentality the players portrayed during their ordeal in Pakistan. In no one is the sense of indignation more evident than in the captain, Mike Gatting.

***Gatting's bitterness is* difficult to fathom. Dilley's offence, *after all,* was a relatively minor transgression punished in a relatively minor way. Justice was done, even if the pantomime of self-justification which followed earned minus marks all round. Most captains, I believe, would not only have acted firmly to halt Dilley's histrionics on the field but would then have fully supported disciplinary measures, especially within the prevailing sensitive climate. Gatting did neither.**

***Apparently,* the captain was adamant that his fast bowler had done *nothing* which merited punishment. The tour manager, Peter Lush, eventually had to exercise his overall authority in order to implement the fine — and Gatting's brooding sense of outrage continued long after the verdict had been announced.**

Sympathetic though he may be *towards* Dilley, Gatting's motives are much deeper. *Naturally enough, they reflect* on his own turmoil in Pakistan and his unshakeable belief that the imbroglio was deepened by intrusive television techniques. When questioned about Dilley's outburst, his initial comment was: "All of this has been brought *about* by the misuse of microphones in *Pakistan*".

This apparently obtuse remark is easily explained. Gatting remains angry that the muttered comments he made about the umpire, Shakoor Rana, while fielding at slip during the Faisalabad Test, were picked up and broadcast by the pitch microphones, even though there was no way they could have been heard by Shakoor.

***He is convinced that this is* an injustice which has put him, as captain, *in the dock* and *it is* largely because of this nagging memory *that* he, and other England players, are now so anxious that such microphones should be banned forthwith from this series.**

As I wrote yesterday, the presence of the microphones was irrelevant in the Dilley case and Lush's belabouring of the issue was an unworthy red herring. It is, however, a subject on which there is sure to be heated discussion before next week's second Test

The television companies believe that pitch sound effects are a useful innovation which add to the viewers' involvement in the action and they will not happily remove them. England, however, feel so *strongly* on the matter that the mood of the players will become still more disgruntled if they are not given satisfaction.

The suspicions of the players are, of course, heightened by the constant scrutiny they are already under during this trip. Misdemeanours which might, in other years, have been forgiven and forgotten simply cannot be countenanced if the game's image is to be repaired.

***The fear of Gatting and his* team is that their instinctive, spontaneous words and actions within the heat of a Test match battle are being unjustly emphasized for television consumption. "Something has got to be done about controlling this intrusion," Lush yesterday said.**

Three players given a rest

Dunedin was cold and wet *yesterday* when *the* England party landed here, which came as a *surprise to* nobody, as *it* had been raining for days in this city of proud Scottish ancestry.

England have announced a squad of 12 for the three-day match against the President's XI, which starts today, resting Broad, Dilley and French *from their* first Test team.

ENGLAND: M W Gatting (captain), M D Moxon, R T Robinson, C W J Athey, N H Fairbrother, D J Capel, J E Emburey, E E Hemmings, P A J DeFreitas, P W Jarvis, N V Radford, C J Richards.

PRESIDENT'S XI: D J White (captain), K J Burns, K R Rutherford, D N Patel, R T Latham, D Walker, E J Gray, B A Young, T J Wilson, J Millmow, R de Groen.

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